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THE CAKEWALK IN LONDON.

(Mr. R. M. Crompton, speaking of dancing, says only the cakewalk seems to have come to stay. He deplores the fact that dancing is so badly done, and attributes it to men looking on it as a pastime instead of as an art. It should be taught at Eton, Harrow, and Rugby as an important part of a gentleman's education.)

Oh! flippant race by trade debased,
And rendered loutish, sour and slow,
Why have you lost your ancient taste
For Art's own light fantastic toe?

Shall dancing die because you see
In it a pastime, not an art?
Nay, rouse ye from your lethargy,
And in its mission take your part.

In every school let every class
Be taught its lancers or quadrille,
Till every little lad and lass
Their true position learn to fill.

Away with simple A B C,
With Euclid, Latin, Greek away,
And let divine Terpsichore
In each academy hold sway!

For what are figures? What is skill
In Virgil's or in Homer's speech?
The cakewalk leads us higher still
Than altitudes the sages reach!

And wouldst thou, England, hold thine own,
And take among the great thy part?
Acknowledge dancing's not alone
A simple pastime, but an art.
—London Chronicle.

JAMES SMITHSON.

His Body Coming to America.

James Smithson never set foot in America, but he was one of the greatest benefactors of the American people. Hence it is fitting that his remains should find an honored resting-place among us. Mr. Smithson died at Genoa, Italy, in 1829, and his body was buried in the old English cemetery there. In the course of the year, since then, the cemetery has degenerated into a stone quarry, and it was decided to remove all the remains. The United States sent over Alexander Graham Bell, of telephone fame, who is one of the regents of the Smithsonian

JAMES SMITHSON

nstitution at Washington. On New Year's day at Genoa, in the presence of Mr. Bell and United States Consul Gudger, Mr. Smithson's grave was opened. The casket had mouldered away, but the bones were perfect. On last Tuesday, January 5, Mr. Bell started with them for this country, on the steamer Princess Irene.

James Smithson was born in England about 1754. The stain of illegitimacy was on him. His father was Hugh Smithson, Earl of Northumberland; and his mother was Mrs. Elizabeth Macie, heiress of the estates of the Hungerfords, of Studley, and neice to Charles, Duke of Somerset. On his father's side Mr. Smithson was a half-brother to Lord Percy, who covered, with a reinforcement, the retreat of the British from Concord, April 19, 1775. For some time he was known as James Lewis Macie, but after 1791 he changed it to Smithson, his father's family name. He received a careful education, graduating at Oxford in 1786, with the reputation of excelling all other resident members of the university in a knowledge of chemistry. In 1787 he was recommended for election to the Royal society, as "a gentleman well versed in the various branches of natural philosophy, and particularly in chemistry and mineralogy." He was made a member, and in his later years was one of its vice presidents.

Though Mr. Smithson was devoted to scientific pursuits, he spent most of his time outside of England, making extensive tours in Europe, in which he made minute observations on the climate, physical features and geological structure of the regions visited, its characteristic minerals, the methods of mining and smelting ores, and in all kinds of manufactures. He carried with him a portable laboratory, in order to bring to the test of practical experiment everything that came to his notice. He collected a very large cabinet of minerals, with thousands of specimens, including all the rarest gems. He wrote many articles on scientific subjects, which were printed in the journals of the time. He was also a member of the French Institute.

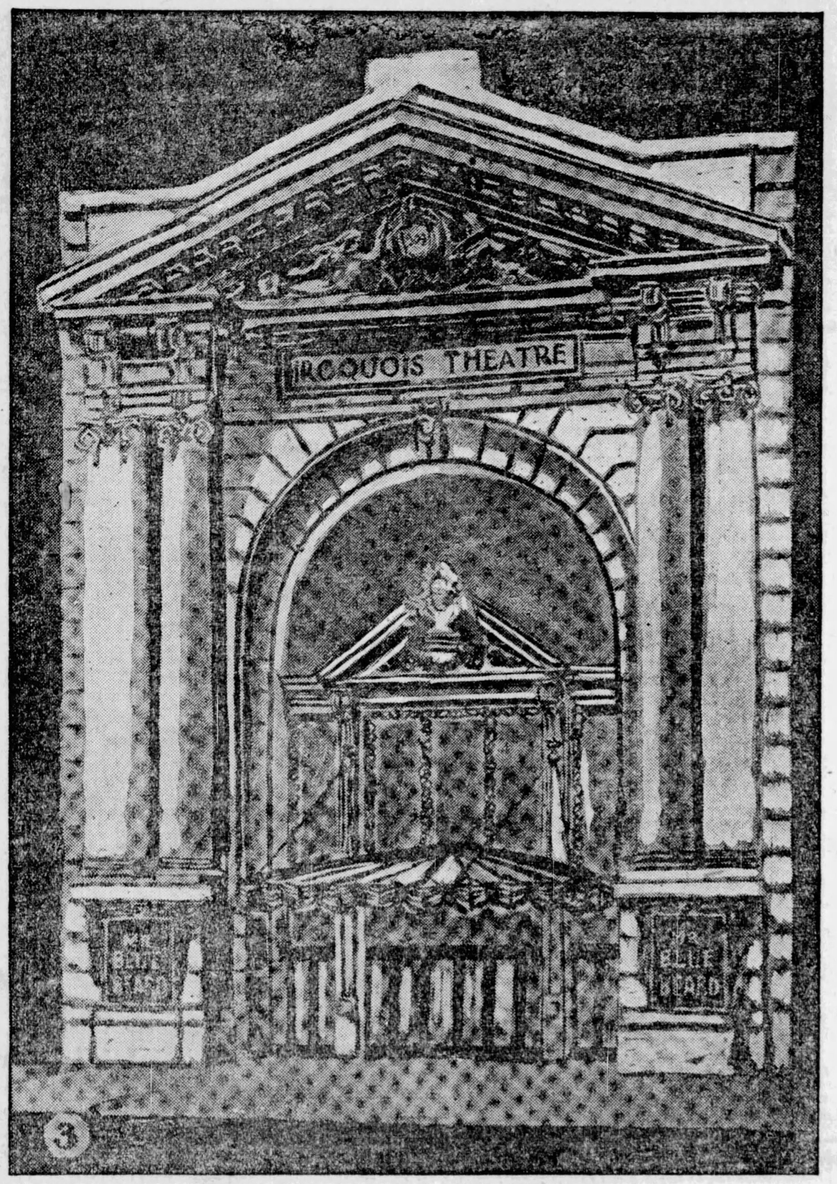
Mr. Smithson possessed quite a large fortune, but he never married. Probably this was because of his illegitimate birth, which was always a grief to him. It also seems to have caused his strong desire for fame after his death, though his scientific reputation was of the best; for he wrote on one occasion: "The best blod of England flows in my veins. On my father's side I am a Northumberland, on my mother's I am related to kings; but it avails me not. My name shall live in the memory of man when the titles of the Northumberlands and the Percys are extinct and forgotten." That may have been regarded as a boast by those who read it; yet it is in a fair way to be accomplished.

It was in order to carry out this ambition that in his will he be bequeathed his property, about £120,000, to his nephew and to the latter's children, with the proviso that should the nephew, Henry J. Hungerford, die without direct heirs, the estate was to revert to the United States "for the purpose of founding an institution at Washington, to be called the Smithsonian Institution for the increase and diffusion of knowledge among men." Mr. Hungerford died in 1835, six years after Smithson, and left no children. The property then went to the United States; but it required a suit in the English court of chancery to secure it. Finally it was ordered paid, which was done on Sept. 1, 1838. The amount, $508,318.46, was brought over from England in 1838 by the Hon. Richard Rush, and deposited in the United States Mint.

Congress made no disposition of the bequest until August, 1846; when it passed an act founding the Smithsonian Institution, directing the formation of a library, a museum, to which were given the collections belonging to the government and an art museum. To the regents was given power to adopt such other steps as they should consider suitable to carry out the purposes of the bequest. The great institution thus founded by Smithson uses as a motto on its publications the remark, written in one of his note-books: "Every man is a valuable member of society, who by his observations, researches, and experiments, procures knowledge for men." The institution has furnished aid, financial and other, to many men who have been and now are are developing original research in this country. The new Carnegie institutes, the money for which was given by Andrew Carnegie, is a modern development of Smithson's idea. It is eminently proper that the remains of Mr. Smithson shall be brought across the sea, and be laid in a final resting place in the grounds of the great institution of which he was the founder.

S. S KNABENSHUE.

THE IROQUIS THEATER HORROR IN CHICAGO.



ENTRANCE TO THE IROQUOIS THEATER.

REMOVING DEAD AT FIRST BALCONY EXIT.

STRENGTH OF THE TWO NATIONS

JAPAN.	RUSSIA.
Population 44,269,606	Population 129,004,514
Territory ..... 162,655 sq. miles	Territory ..... 8,800,335 sq. miles.
Army—	
War footing 474,770 officers and men.	5,617,703 officers and men.
Peace time 141,770 officers and men.	1,000,000 officers and men.
Navy—58 warships, 86 torpedo boats.	119 warships, 225 torpedo boats.
540 heavy guns, 1,012 secondary.	672 heavy guns, 4,326 secondary.
8 first class battleships.	25 first-class battleships.
2 second-class battleships.	9 second-class battleships.
1 third-class battleship.	7 third-class battleships.
4 coast defense ships.	7 coast defense ships.
2 armored cruisers	15 armored cruisers.
7 first-class cruisers.	12 first-class cruisers.
18 cruisers, other classes.	25 second-class cruisers.
16 gunboats.	9 third-class cruisers.
	11 gunboats.

A Personal Grievance.

Boston Post.

Wilfred—Maw, stop that bad boy; he's trying to kill our squirrels!

Mother—Certainly, Willie, dear. He has no business to do anything of the sort.

Wilfred—I should say not! I want to shoot at 'em myself!

The Whip Hand

A Tale of the Pine Country

By Samuel Merwin

Author of "The Road to Frontenac." Joint author of "Calumet K."

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CHAPTER 12:—THE QUESTION.

He took her hand, and their eyes met. Until now it had not occurred to him that she, too, had changed. Her expression even was different; three years earlier she had been living earnestly, intensely—she had felt the unequal burdens of the world and had plunged fearlessly into vast problems, but now she seemed more impersonal, more detached.

"Sit down," she said, withdrawing her hand. "I will speak to mother."

There were more greetings to be gone through. They sat about the fire for awhile; and Halloran had to give an account of himself, and had to listen to Mrs. Davis' open approval of him. She had heard of him now and then; she had known from the first that he would get on: she was downright proud of him, in fact. This was something of an ordeal, and he felt relieved when she withdrew and left Margaret with him.

The two stood for a moment looking into the fire; then she nooded toward the Morris chair and he dropped into it. She sat down on the other side of the table and propped up her chin on her two hands. For a moment they sat looking at each other. Finally they both smiled

"Well," she observed, "we've been growing up, haven't we?"

So she had remarked it, too.

"Yes, I guess we have," he replied. "Rather more than I had thought."

"You didn't expect to find me the same girl you left here, did you?"

Halloran gazed moodily into the fire.

"I don't know. I couldn't say just what I did expect."

"But it's different, anyway, isn't it?"

He nodded.

"And now you don't like it because you think we shall have to begin all over again getting acquainted?"

He nodded again.

Then, looking up, he was assured by her friendly smile. She slowly shook her head at him.

"That isn't quite fair," she went on. "Here I have been staying right at home and doing the same things all these three years. If I have grown a little older, I couldn't help it very well. But you have grown to be a business man with ever so many interests, and I suppose you are very successful—anyway, you have changed so much I hardly knew you. How long are you going to be here?"

"Until Monday or Tuesday."

"You must come to dinner tomorrow, then. You'd better come planning to spend the rest of the day."

"Thanks, I will. How is George?"

Her face grew serious. "He has been giving me a good deal of trouble lately. I don't know what to make of him. He lost his home, you know—or maybe you don't. Have you heard the story?"

"No."

"It is a strange one. To begin with, his sister Elizabeth eloped with Mr. Le Duc."

"Not Apples?"

"Yes; they were married in St. Joe, and she went on the stage with him. Jimmie McGinnis is with them, too. They call themselves the three Le Ducs, I believe. And Mrs. Craig lost her position. The Le Ducs are in Chicago now, at a cheap theatre, and Mrs. Craig is living with them; but they refused to take George, too. They seem to grudge her even the little they do. So George was turned out into the street and got into bad company, and now he's in jail. I don't think it's as bad as it sounds. His companions are a good deal older, and Mr. Babcock, who has been looking after him, says he will undoubtedly be released. I almost wrote you about it a little while ago."

"I wish you had."

"Well," she hesitated, "I didn't know—it has been so long." She looked up. "To tell the truth, I didn't know whether you were still interested."

He rose and went over to the mantel. The fire was low and he heaped it up with the largest sticks in the wood-box; then dropping on one knee he took up the bellows and had it roaring in a moment.

"I like a big fire," he said, over his shoulder.

She nodded and let her eyes rest on him as he worked over the fire. Yes, he was a good deal older: his frame had filled out and settled; and in his manner, too, some of the rough edges had been rubbed down—a fact she whimsically regretted. She got up now and pushed the big chair up beside the fire and sat across from him. For a time they said nothing—he sitting on a stool at one side of the hearth, she in the chair at the other; he applying the bellows in a moody, desultory way, she leaning back watching first him and then the leaping flames. Finally he said, letting the bellows swing between his knees, still keeping his eyes on the fire:

"Margaret!"

She started a little and a quick, almost shy glance shot from her eyes; but he seemed wholly unconscious that he had never directly called her by that name before. He swung the bellows slowly to and fro like a pendulum.

"What made you think I wou'dn't be interested?"

"Why—I don't know that I meant exactly that——"

He went on, still without looking up: "Was it anything in what I wrote before?"

Yes, there had been some writing before—when he was first at Wau hung, and she, eager for her little protege in the city, had kept him informed of George's progress and had relied on his counsel. And now, as he brought that correspondence up in his mind, and remembered how it had bothered him, how he had avoided every personal reference and had made it easy always for her to stop when she chose, and how she finally had stopped—when he had these facts before him, he was thankful that the fire could partly explain his color.

"I'm afraid I wasn't a very satisfactory correspondent," he added, "but those weren't very satisfactory days. I was sailing pretty close then—I had some college expenses to pay back, and I was learning the business, and altogether I didn't see much fun in living. If you have thought of me since as the same sort of fellow I was then, I don't blame you for not wanting to write."

He looked up at her for a reply; but she only smiled a little and slowly shook her head.

And so they talked on, these two, for a long time; they drifted on into a dreamy, personal mood—into a land where only common interests could get a footing, where there was no clock—nothing but the red flames, and the dim rows of books, and the hushed house, and themselves. They forgot tonight those three years of divergence—forgot that there was one set of facts centering about the Michigan lumberman and another about Margaret. To Halloran all of life had slipped away except that dreamy figure in the Morris chair, with the late red glow of the fire on her face and on her hair. His eyes were half closed, and she turned them toward him now and then without moving her head. A smile hovered on her face—now on her lips, if he spoke to her—at other times flitting about her eyes. Her hands lay motionless on the arms of the chair. To both of them it was a rich glad time, so glad that it could best be explained by silence, tempered only at intervals by low voices; so rich that it poured its warmth into their very souls and quieted them, and gave them to know that such high moments are rare, that they must be conserved and guarded, must be lived through reverently.

He looked at her shyly at first, with stolen glances, until in some silent way she gave him her permission; and then he looked long, not from his eyes alone, but from the new self within him which had risen almost to equality with that other self of hers. He knew this now—knew it to be gloriously true; and he felt a defiance of all life, of all the pressing facts and things that had crowded into his existence, a defiance, a consciousness of self that thrilled him with its reality. For the first time in his life he knew that those solid things were not real. And his soul was awed and humbled.

And she looked at him—shyly always, yet conscious of what she was too honest to deny. And the occasional pressure of her sensitive mouth, the twitch of her eyelid as the light wavered over it, were not needed to show him that she too, was wholly given up to the reality—that her life was gathered up tonight, with his, into one full hour of happiness.

Into this Arden came the distant whistle of a locomotive. Her eyes sought his, and at the expression they found there she shook her head.

"That is going the other way," she said softly.

"I'm sorry"—he looked at his watch—"I have just time for the last train."

He rose and stood a moment looking at the fire. Then he came over and leaned on the back of the chair and reached down and raised her hand in his. She almost shivered at his touch, but he held it firmly; and after a moment, in which the blood seemed to leave her face, her fingers closed on his and clasped them tightly.

And then he forgot all about the last train. He knew that the impulse that he had feared so long had at last mastered him, and he was wildly, exultantly glad. He slipped down on the broad arm of the chair and held her hand on his knee, and looked down at her hair; whilst she, still with that occasional compression of the lips, gazed into the fire. For her too, everything had slipped into oblivion—everything but the red, red glow of the dying fire and the clasp of his hand in hers and the touch of his other hand on her hair. There was nothing else in the world for her tonight; and her happiness was so poignant that she felt herself swept blindly along with him, past all the obstacles of convention, of small misunderstandings, of outside interests, on up to heights that had never before during her quiet lifetime even entered her imagination. At moments her fingers would tighten on his and strange, happy tears would fill her eyes, to be kept back only by an effort. Once she could not keep them back; and he looked down and saw them on her cheek, and she did not care. Tears were trivial, now that her soul was laid bare to him.

At another time she spoke so softly that he could not hear, and he bent down his head.

"You are not going to try to get back to the city?" she repeated, in a voice from which all strength, all the body had gone.

"No—I'm going down to the hotel."

Her clasp tightened again by way of reply.

And so the wild, sweet message came to this man and this young woman. It told them how deeply those earlier years of friendship had entered their natures; it let them know how much stronger it was than will or habit—how it had chained their two lives so firmly together that only a few moments had been needed tonight to show it plainly to them both. A look of the eye, a tone in the voice, and it was done. From that moment their lives had changed; and wherever the new current might lead them, whatever might be waiting in the dim, luminous years beyond, the new fact must control their thoughts. The old days were gone; the new had begun.

Was it strange that he should think of this, that the meaning of it all should flash through his mind; whilst she, with her sensitive nature wholly bound up in this moment, should be conscious of nothing, should be conscious of nothing, save that he was here? Was this strange? Her eyes were still fixed on the embers: she seemed unable to raise them to his. In all her life she had never before given up. Her impulses had never before swept her reason from its seat and held her, trembling and amazed in their grip. It was new and wonderful to her.

"Margaret," he said, in the low voice that expressed the most, "dare I look at my watch?"

She smiled and tightly held his hand.

"No?"

She shook her head.

He caught up a lock of her hair and held it against the light. It glistened like fine-spun gold. He leaned down and pressed it to his lips; and again he felt that tightening of her fingers, that slight shiver passing through her. He bent forward and saw that the tears had escaped again.

"Margaret," he whispered, "look up."

Her eyes lifted a little, then dropped. He waited and then whispered again. "Look up, dear." Slowly she raised them until they met his fairly, and their two souls were gazing straight, each to each. Her fingers tightened and tightened; she was trembling. And at last he caught her wildly with both his arms and drew her against him and kissed her forehead, her eyes, her mouth. And her tears fell without restraint.

"Dear girl," he whispered, his mouth close to her ear, "Dear girl, you love me—I know you love me. I have waited—it is a long while that I have waited—but all the waiting is over now. Tell me that it is all over—that we are going to begin our lives—our life—new again. Tell me that we are going to be happy."

There was a moment during which she struggled to free herself. "Don't, oh, don't!" she cried brokenly. "Please stop, John!" And he, hurt and wondering, released her, and stood up, watching her stupidly as she fell back in the chair and covered her eyes.

Poor Halloran! He had been supposing that he understood her—that he really could see a little way into her complex nature. And the discovery that he was still far on the outside of her personality brought a cruel shock. He could not know that while his thoughts had rambled ahead, constructing their life, hers had been absorbed in the happiness of that one golden hour. He could not understand how his words, and the realization of what this evening meant to them both, had burst upon her with a force that frightened her. He could not be expected to know what a struggle had come with this first open thought of giving up to a man—what questions it raised, what problems of wholly reconstructing a life; how the great questions loomed before her in dimensions that seemed almost tragic. He could not understand this; and so, when he finally spoke, it was with a touch of quiet dignity.

"Margaret," he said, "I have asked you to be my wife." There was a more and more appealing quality in his voice as he went on. "I have asked you to be my wife. Can't you give me your answer?"

She shook her head without uncovering her eyes.

"Shall I come for it tomorrow, then, Margaret? I think I have told you everything. You know that I love you. I can't live without you—I dread even to think of waiting. It means so much to me, Margaret, so very much, that I don't know——"

He paused, for is voice was beginning to shake a little. Still she was silent.

"Have you"—it was getting difficult to speak—"have you nothing to tell me?"

"Oh, John," she managed to say, "I'm sorry! I'm so sorry!"

"Is—is that all, Margaret?"

"You must not come tomorrow—I can't let you."

"A week, then, Margaret?—a—a month?"

I don't know—you must not stay."

He waited a little, then walked slowly to the hall. When he had his coat nearly on she came to the doorway. He waited again, hat in hand.

"Good—good night," she said.

" Is that——"

She shook her head nervously, hurriedly, and he opened the door and went out.

And when he had gone, when his last step had died away in the still air, she sank down on the stairs and sobbed, trembling in the power of this passion. What had she done! What had she done! Her thoughts ranged madly. She thought of the three years of divergence; of his habits, of hers; of all the things, great and trivial, that bore on the question; she tried to remember what had happened this night, and could not. She only knew that this strange power had mastered her; and she was afraid of it and of him.

CHAPTER XIII:—ONE EVENING.

Mr. Bigelow sat in the chair; behind and around him were the speakers of the evening grouped with the committee of the Society of the Preservation of the Home; before him extended rows upon rows of citizens, all of them vigorously applauding the last speaker, all of them, without regard to private cellars, bent upon stamping out the saloon evil in their suburb.

An usher mounted the platform and laid a folded slip of paper on the table. The chairman unfolded it, read with great composure, and inclined his head to signify an affirmative reply. This was the note:

"Mr. G. Hyde Bigelow:

"Dear Sir: May I see you for a few moments after the meeting, on business of great importance?

"APPLETON LE DUC."

"Probably a reporter," thought the chairman. A draft of his opening speech lay in his inside pocket, and if this man was attached to a reputable paper he would be welcome to it. Mr. Bigelow made it an invariable rule to be courteous to newspaper men.

At the close of the meeting, therefore, as he was donning his coat, the usher touched him on the arm.

"This is the man who wished to see you, Mr. Bigelow."

The chairman turned and beheld a tall, thin individual, with a long face, wearing somewhat conspicuous clothes.

"How do you do," he said, in a genial tone, extending his hand.

The thin man took it and glanced sharply at Mr. Bigelow—a glance full of curious interest. A change had been taking place in Apples since we last saw him. Evidently the care of his wife and his wife's mother, and the prospect of a visit from the stork at once reducing the family income and materially increasing the outgo, had quieted the effervescence of his youth and set him thinking.

"If you have no objection," said Le Duc, "I will walk along with you."

"None whatever," replied Mr. Bigelow.

They walked together out of the building and followed that part of the crowd which had turned westward.

"Well, sir, observed the chairman, "what can I do for you?"

Le Duc answered in a low, even voice—a voice which, if it showed embarrassment and effort, showed also determination.

"You were formerly married, I believe, to a woman who is now known as Mrs Craig."

Dwelling, as it had been, on the plaudits, the hearty enthusiasms of the evening, on the written speech reposing in an inside pocket, Mr. Bigelow's mind came to earth with a shock. He stopped abruptly, threw a quick look at the thin man, and then, recalling that the sidewalk was still covered with people, he moved on.

"Have you come here to discuss my private affairs?" he said brusquely.

"In a sense, yes. The matter has been put into my hands, and I thought the most satisfactory thing would be to come out here and talk to you. Of course, if you'd rather I'd see somebody else, it makes no difference to me."

Mr. Bigelow was silence for a moment. Le Duc glanced sideways at him as they passed under a corner light, and was glad to observe that he had penetrated the man's armor.

"Are you a lawyer?" was the chairman's abrupt question.

"No, sir."

"In what capacity have you come here?"

"Why, you see, Lizzie, Mrs. Craig's daughter, is my wife."

Mr. Bigelow's reply was a half-audible grunt.

"Mrs. Craig, you understand, is really suffering. She has no income and we have been keeping her with us; but I am not in a position to do much for her—not as much as I should like."

"What do you want of me?"

"I believe—that you agreed to support her."

"Well, how much do you want?"

"That isn't it, you see." Somewhat eagerly this. "It wasn't only that you agreed to support her, but the courts decided that you should. So it isn't a question of what you might offer or me accept, but of how much is owing on past years. I think I can understand it—I suppose a man gets tired of paying out money he doesn't get any return for—and of course it's been a good many years——"

"Never mind about that."

"Well—you see—I've thought there was some misunderstanding about the business. She says you told her to go to law if she wanted to, but I thought she must have misunderstood you. Of course, she could, you know, but her case is very good, I think. It would be expensive all 'round, and it mightn't be pleasant."

Very true, Apples. It might be decidedly unpleasant, now that a voluble young man, with apparently no regard for the proprieties, has sprung up from somewhere to push matters.

"Well, what do you want?"

"I've talked it all over with Mrs. Craig and she has told me just how things stand. She has kept a pretty regular account of everything; and she figures it out about like this. There were five years, nearly five, anyhow—we don't want to quibble over that—when she was to all intents and purposes paid up. Since then there haven't been any regular payments, except about five hundred dollars that's been given her in small sums. It was to be a thousand dollars a year, I believe. Five thousand five hundred from seventeen thousand leaves eleven thousand five hundred still due her—call it an even eleven thousand."

"You say you are not a lawyer?"

"No, sir."

"What is your business?"

"I'm—I'm an actor."

"Where do you play?"

"On the North Side."

"What can you earn?"

"Well, the three of us—we are the three Le Ducs, you know—my wife and I, and Elmer, can get sixty a week for our turn."

"You don't mean to say you have a son old enough to play with you?"

"Oh, no, no—we only call him Elmer Le Duc. We haven't been married so long as that. But——" However, this was not business, and he checked the confidence that was never far from the end of his tongue nowadays.

"How long have you been on the stage?"

"Nearly three years."

"What did you do before that?"

"I was at college."

"What college?"

"Here, in Evanston."

"So?"

They were now standing in front of the wide grounds of G. Hyde Bigelow. Peeping out from its screen of trees, far back behind the spacious lawn, could be seen the granite turrets of Mr. Bigelow's new house. The owner turned toward them as he reflected.

"I will tell you what you do, Mr.—Mr.——"

"Le Duc."

"Mr. Le Duc. You come to my office tomorrow at eleven. I think that by that time I will have a proposition that will interest you. Meantime, suppose we let this matter stand just where it is now. Is that satisfactory?"

"Why—certainly; perfectly so."

"Very well, I shall look for you tomorrow at eleven. Good-night."

"Maybe I had better leave one of my cards with you, sir."

"Very well. Good-night."

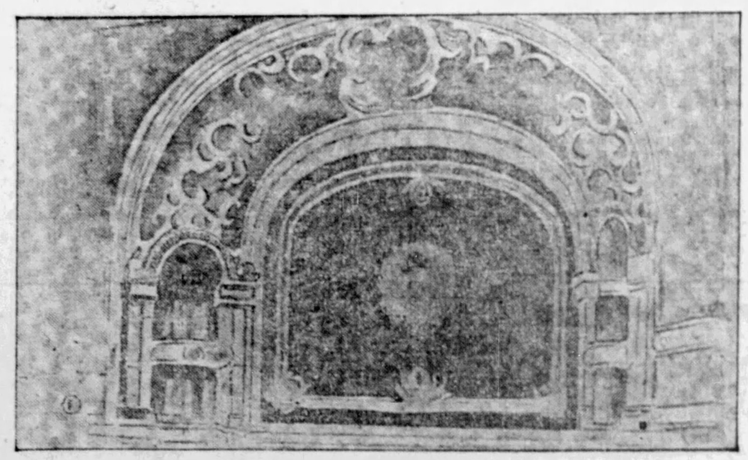
"Good-night."

Mr. Bigelow turned into the grounds and disappeared among the trees, and Apples, bubbling with self-congratulations, hurried over to the trolley line.

Margaret was tired tonight. She was glad to be at home; and she threw herself on the library couch to rest for an hour while she awaited the final report of the day's labors. For George had been released from jail, thanks to the benevolence of the judge—himself a suburbanite—and to the clearness of the facts. It had called for very little effort on the part of Mr. Babcock, who had taken the case on his own shoulders, to make plain that George had been merely the cat's-paw of a gang of roughs. And now Mrs. Bigelow had promised Mr. Babcock that she would take in the boy and give him work about the house; so that apparently he was at last to have a start.

At length Mr. Babcock himself came in. He was almost jaunty this evening; and his voice was pitched higher than usual.

"How do you do, Miss Davies?" he exclaimed. "Here I am with my report."



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MRS. A. L. WALKER.

discouraged, but in a few days after taking your wonderful Swamp-Root I began to feel better.

I was out of health and run down generally; had no appetite, was dizzy and suffered with headache most of the time. I did not know that my kidneys were the cause of my trouble, but somehow felt they might be, and I began taking Swamp-Root, as above stated. There is such a pleasant taste to Swamp-Root, and it goes right to the spot and drives disease out of the system. It has cured me, and I cheerfully recommend it to all sufferers. Gratefully yours,

MRS. A. L. WALKER,
46 West Linden St., Atlanta, Ga.

To Prove What SWAMP-ROOT, the Great Kidney, Liver and Bladder Remedy Will Do for YOU, Every Reader of the "Blade" May Have a Sample Bottle FREE by Mail.

EDITORIAL NOTICE—No matter how many doctors you have tried — no matter how much money you may have spent on other medicines, you really owe it to yourself, and to your family, to at least give Swamp-Root a trial. Its strongest friends today are those who had almost given up hope of ever becoming well again. You may have a sample bottle of this wonderful discovery, Swamp-Root, sent absolutely free by mail, also a book telling all about Swamp-Root, and containing many of the thousands upon thousands of testimonial letters received from men and women who owe their good health, in fact their very lives, to its wonderful curative properties. In writing to Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y., be sure to say that you read this generous offer in The Toledo "Weekly Blade." If you are already convinced that Swamp-Root is what you need, you can purchase the regular fifty-cent and one dollar size bottles at the drug stores everywhere.

WOMEN suffer untold misery because the nature of their disease is not always correctly understood; in many cases when doctoring, they are led to believe that womb trouble or female weakness of some sort is responsible for their ills, when in fact disordered kidneys are the chief cause of their distressing troubles. Perhaps you suffer almost continually with pain in the back, bearing-down feelings, headache and utter exhaustion.

Your poor health makes you nervous, irritable, and at times despondent; but thousands of just such suffering or broken-down women are being restored to health and strength every day by the use of that wonderful discovery, Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, the great kidney, liver and bladder remedy.

Not only does Swamp-Root bring new life and activity to the kidneys, the cause of the trouble, but by treating the kidneys it acts as a general tonic and food for the entire constitution.

The mild and extraordinary effect of the world-famous kidney and bladder remedy, Swamp-Root, is soon realized. It stands the highest for its wonderful cures of the most distressing cases. A trial will convince any one—and you may have a sample bottle sent free by mail.

In taking Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root you afford natural help to Nature, for Swamp-Root is the most perfect healer and gentle aid to the kidneys that has ever been discovered. Don't make any mistake, but remember the name, Swamp-Root, Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, and the address, Binghamton, N. Y., on every bottle.

"You brought him out, did you?"

"Yes. Mrs. Bigelow has him and promises to take the best of care of him. He seems a likely boy—unfortunate he wasn't better brought up. But of course he may take a brace—such things have happened.

"You know I have faith in George," said Margaret warmly.

"Yes. I know. I hope you're right. Maybe you are. He'll be kept busy for awhile anyway, learning to groom the horses and milk the cows. That'll be good for him. Queer case, isn't. Quite like a story. It has interested me immensely. Been a queer sort of a day all around for me. If every day was like it I'd never get any business done. Came right in a busy season, too. Oh, I don't mean about the boy. That was because you were interested in him. I'd do as much any time you asked it—do it gladly. But I ran across Myers while I was over at the court building. He is going West, you know, for his wife's health, and wants to sell his house. You know it, don't you?—over on the Lake Front. He wants to sell bad and offers the place for next to nothing, so I promised him I'd stroll down there tonight and have a look at it. How would you like to go along? Your taste's rather better than mine, I think."

"Why—isn't it a little late?" He had never talked like this before; she was puzzled.

"No—not so very—about nine. But I see you're tired, so don't think of it. Tell you what I'll do—I'll get him to let me have the plans, and we'll look them over together, and you tell me how they strike you. If it is in as good shape as I think I believe I'll buy—that is, if I can get a clear title."

"It is very attractive along the shore."

"That's the way it strikes me. And with good horses you'd harly mind the distance. He says his library is finished in rose tints and Flemish oak. How does that sound?"

"Very pretty, I should think."

"Yes, doesn't it? So you really like the idea? I'm glad of that. You're the one I care most about pleasing." He rose and looked down at her. "There's no use telling me you aren't tired; I can see it. You've worked like a good one today, and I'm going to let you get a little rest."

She rose.

"I'll bring up the plans sometime before Sunday, and we'll go over them and see what we make of it. Goodnight."

She smiled wearily and stood there until he had left the house; then she went upstairs and into Mrs. Davies' room.

"Mother," she said, with an odd little smile, I want to go away."

"Where, child?"

"I don't know—East, perhaps."

Mrs. Davies looked quietly up from her knitting. "How long have you been thinking of this?" she asked.

"Not very long—just today."

They looked at each other for a moment in that same quiet way—Margaret still smiling, but with a suspicious shine in her eyes. Then suddenly she came over, slipped to the floor, and buried her face on her arms in her mother's lap.

After a long silence Mrs. Davies asked:

"When would you like to go, dear?" There was no reply. "Very soon?" Margaret raised her head a little way and was apparently about to speak, then lowered it again. "Would you like to go this week?" Still there was silence. But Mrs. Davies seemed to understand. "We might get away by Thursday or Friday, dearie, if you can get ready. Can you?"

And Margaret murmured, without looking up.

"Oh, yes, yes! I can be ready tomorrow."

(To be continued.)

A Spartan Mother of Today.

A country school teacher received the following note from the mother of one of her pupils on Monday: "Dear Miss—You writ me about whipping Sammy. I herby give you permission to beet him up eny time it is necessary to learn him lesens. He is just like his father—you have to learn him with a club. Pound nolege into him. I wante him to git it, and don't pay no atenshun to what his father says. I'll handle him."

We will send the marvelous French Remedy

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FREE by mail, (no C. O. D. or Prescription Scheme) and a legally executed guarantee that CALTHOS will

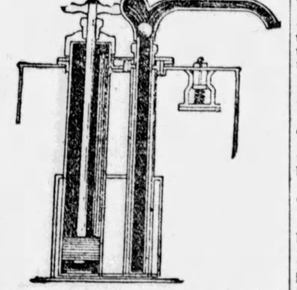
STOP Discharges and Emissions,
CURE Spermatorrhea, Varicocele and
RESTORE Lost Vigor.

Use it and pay if satisfied.

Address VON MOHL CO., 852 B, Sole American Agents, CINCINNATI, O.

Non-Explosive Oil Can.

The danger of explosion in handling volatile and highly inflammable oils has led to the designing of a number of safety devices, intended to make impossible the ignition of the vapor inside the tank through the vapor or liquid outside catching fire and following the stream or jet to the interior. One of the newest of these safety reservoirs is that presented in our picture, having been designed especially for those who use automobiles and motor cycles, and for factories, buildings, vessels, etc., where it is necessary to use or store gasoline, naphtha, benzine and kindred oils having a low flash point A sectional view of the pump and filling valve is here shown, both these being of brass and galvanized iron construction and proof against the escape of oil or gas. The main feature of this apparatus is the



little ball, which lies at the upper end of the vertical discharge pipe. At a stroke of the plunger this ball rises into the little pocket provided for it, allowing the oil to flow out through the spout, but the instant the upward flow of the oil ceases this ball drops back into the tube again, effectually closing the passage and preventing the entrance of the flame. The filling nozzle, seen at the right, has a safety pillar of cast brass, so constructed that to fill the tank this pillar must be held down with the wire rod provided for the purpose, which automatically closes as soon as the pressure ceases. When not in use the discharge spout is turned over the can, and a tight cover is closed down over the whole apparatus, thus further increasing the degree of safety.

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY

Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. E. W. Grove's signature is on each box. 25 cents.

Mark Twain and Whistler.

Mark Twain described recently his first meeting with the late James McNeill Whistler.

"I was introduced to Mr. Whistler," he said, "in his studio in London. I had heard that the painter was an incorrigible joker, and was determined to get the better of him if possible. So at once I put on my most hopelessly stupid air, and I drew near the canvas that Mr. Whistler was completing.

"'That ain't bad,' I said. 'It ain't bad, only here in this corner'—and I made as if to rub a cloud effect with my finger. 'I'll do away with that cloud if I was you.'

"Whistler cried nervously:

"'Gad, sir, be careful there. Don't you see the paint is not dry?'

"'Oh, that don't matter,' said I. 'I've got my gloves on.'

"We got on well together after that."—Boston Post.

ANOTHER DOWIE IN MAKING

Miraculous cures are said to be performed by a lad of 18 named Edward Pirsch, who lives with his parents and two brothers in the hamlet of Chevellpont, near Villers-la-Ville, South Brabant, in Belgium. Three years ago the boy became a spiritualistic medium, and since then has been treating people suffering from serious lingering diseases from all parts of the country. He has become the leader of a large and enthusiastic spiritualistic group. He works with his father, who is a master marble mason. He says he receives instantaneous communications from spirits, sometimes from as many as fourteen consecutively. The most important of these is the spirit of a deceased Servian doctor named Cypriot, who dictates prescriptions of herbs, which the inhabitants say perform astonishing cures. Many of the herbs used are not known in Belgium, and have to be procured abroad. The boy knows nothing of medicine, but the prescriptions are drawn up as by a professional hand, and are given in minute detail. Pirsch writes the spirit messages in French, often backwards. The handwriting is of quite a different character when different spirits are supposed to be speaking. The boy shows photographs which he has taken depicting what he says are spirit hands.

THE OHIO AND ITS TRIBUTARIES

Wonderful Development of This Waterway.

One of the most interesting phases of the marvelous development of our internal commerce during the past ten or twenty years, says William G. Irwin in the Scientific America, has been the growing importance of the Ohio and its tributaries, the Ohio and the Mississippi today forming the greatest internal waterway system in the world, with the possible exception of that formed by the Great Lakes. This rapid development the Ohio valley has been undergoing during the past ten or twenty years. Just as the upper Ohio valley is today the center of the iron and steel trade of the world, and at the same time the greatest producer of coal and coke, so, too, does the vast amount of traffic which the Pittsburg district, together with southern Ohio and the northern part of West Virginia, contributing the major portion of those varied commercial products which give the Ohio a vast annual traffic. The Pittsburg district today possesses more industrial superlatives than are to be found on any other similar area on earth. This district has the greatest iron and steel works, the greatest electrical plants, the largest glass houses, firebrick yards, potteries, etc., and at the same time is the center of the world's greatest coal and coking fields.

Save for the shipping facilities afforded by the Ohio, all the vast traffic radiating out from this district is marketed by way of the railroads. Consequently Pittsburg has become the greatest center of railway traffic on the globe, the various roads entering this city being continually congested with the great volume of traffic. There was a time when the railway interests were opposed to the improvement of the Ohio with a view to making it a commercial stream, but long ago such opposition has disappeared, and it is now fully realized that the vast traffic of this district necessitates other than railway facilities for its handling.

While the Ohio has been utilized for transportation purposes to some extent from the earliest days, yet until a comparatively recent period, and even at the present day, this commercial highway has not been improved to that state which those interested in this form of traffic have desired. But what has already been accomplished has been responsible for making Pittsburg, although wholly an inland city, the fifth commercial port in this country in point of tonnage, its annual river traffic being exceeded only by New York, Baltimore, Chicago and Buffalo. With Pittsburg the fifth commercial port in this country under the present circumstances, when the Ohio and its tributary streams are open to navigation only about eight months in the year, some conception can be formed of what benefits will be conferred on this city when an all-year-round shipping stage is established on the Ohio, and when the government dams and locks are enlarged to accommodate the great freight steamers which are now being constructed for this traffic.

The navigable course of the Ohio extends from Pittsburg to the Mississippi, a distance of nearly one thousand miles. The Monongahela is navigable a distance of about one hundred and fifty miles above Pittsburg, and the Allegheny, which, with the Monongahela, forms the Ohio, is at present navigable about thirty miles above Pittsburg, while improvements under way and contemplated will give that stream more than one hundred miles of navigable waters. The Muskingum, in Ohio, contributes seventy-five miles of navigable waters to the Ohio river system. In West Virginia the Kanawha is navigable for 150 miles, the Little Kanawha for 102 miles and the Big Sandy for 50 miles. The erection of government dams and locks will add more than a hundred miles of navigable waters to these streams. The White river, in Indiana, is navigable for 50 miles, and in Kentucky the Ohio has in the Green, Kentucky, Tennessee and Cumberland navigable tributaries with an aggregate length of more than twelve hundred miles. The Ohio-Mississippi system from Pittsburg to New Orleans has a length of about fourteen hundred miles, and the navigable tributaries of the Ohio have an aggregate length of more than eighteen hundred miles, giving this internal waterway a length of more than thirty-two hundred miles, while improvements now under way or provided for by the government will add probably three hundred miles of navigable waters, and within a few years this work will have established an all-year navigation stage on the Ohio throughout its entire course.

The principal item in the commerce of the Ohio is coal, which is now shipped by water in large quantities from West Virginia, as well as from the Pittsburg district. As early as 1802 a vessel laden with coal at Pittsburg was sent by way of the Ohio, Mississippi, Gulf and Atlantic to Havre, and ever since that time coal carrying on the Ohio has been an important commerce. Before the opening of the last century Pittsburg coal was sent down the Ohio on keelboats; later the product was marketed by flatboats, and since the introduction of steamboating on these waters the coal traffic has assumed marvellous proportions. By way of the Monongahela, which has been improved by the construction of nine locks and dams, with five others now building, something like ten million tons of coal are taken down to Pittsburg. Part of this is for local consumption, but the bulk is there made up in fleets for shipment to New Orleans and Gulf ports. The improvements now under way and those proposed and provided for by government appropriation will extend the navigable course of that stream into the Fairmunt coal field and West Virginia, and a vast tonnage will be thus added to the Monongahela and Ohio rivers. Last year there were more than forty-two thousand lockages at the nine locks on the Monongahela.

THE NEW CONGRESSMAN.

The tall, loose jointed, fidgety man with the goatee had not been long on the eastbound train before everybody in the car knew he was a congressman-elect on his way to Washington from a district which, for purposes of identification, may be described as located somewhere between the Mississippi river and Puget Sound.

The train was not travelling fast enough to suit him. He had a haunting fear that the regular session of congress would be delayed in consequence of his failure to arrive on time, or that it would have to open without him, and either alternative was too horrible to contemplate.

At every stoppage of the train he looked at his watch, and if the delay was more than a minute or two he sent the porter in haste to ask the conductor what was the matter.

At Harrisburg there was a wait of ten minutes.

"Porter," he shouted as that functionary made his appearance after a prolonged absence, "I wish you would find out why in thunder we're stopping here so long!"

"Beg pahdon, suh," said the porter, "but we leave the dining kyah heah."

"Well, why don't you leave it?"

"Some o' the gent'men, suh, hain't finished their dinnahs yit."

Clapping his hat on his head, the distinguished passenger strode forward to the dining car.

He opened the door and thrust his head inside.

"Gentlemen," he roared, "do you know that your infernal gluttony is hindering the public business of the United States of America?"—Chicago Tribune.

A Cold.

He has a cold, and life no more
Is fair and radiant as of yore.
He sees no sunsets gild the sky,
No autumn colors greet the eye;
For him the earth is full of chills
And potions, capsules, salves and pills,
Hot baths and blankets, coughs and tears,
Advice and sympathy and sneers;
Red eyes that mark a present plight
Without the glee of yesternight.
And friends declare: "'Twill soon be well
Or else 'twill kill you; who can tell?"
Of all the ills life can unfold,
His is the worst who has a cold!
—Washington Star.

The Love of Eating.

IS THE AMERICAN BECOMING A GOURMAND?

In our largest centers of population, such as New York and Chicago, we daily see more attention given to the inner man. Cafes and lunch-rooms are filled with men and women who seem to give all their time and attention to thoughts of properly or improperly feeding their stomachs. "It is of course best to eat slowly, but not too much," says Dr. Pierce, chief consulting physician to the Invalids' Hotel and Surgical Institute, of Buffalo, N. Y. In this 20th century people devote so much time to head work that their brain is fagged and there isn't sufficient blood left to properly take care of the other organs of the body. The stomach must be assisted in its hard work—the liver started into action—by the use of a good stomach tonic, which should be entirely of vegetable ingredients and without alcohol. After years of experience in an active practice, Dr. Pierce discovered a remedy that suited these conditions in a blood-maker and tissue-builder. He called it Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery —an alterative extract that assists in the digestion and assimilation of the food in the stomach—so that the blood gets what it needs for food and oxidation, the liver is at the same time started into activity and there is perfect elimination of waste matter. When the blood is pure and rich, all the organs work without effort, and the body is like a perfect machine.

FREE! Dr. Pierce's Common Sense Medical Adviser is sent *free* on receipt of stamps to pay expense of mailing *only*. Send 21 one-cent stamps for the book in paper covers, or 31 stamps for the cloth-bound volume. Address Dr. R. V. Pierce, Buffalo, N. Y.

Recent Literature.

The following books have been received by The Blade from the publishers named. For further information address the publishers, not us:

From Harper Brothers, Franklin Square, New York:

The Ambassadors, by Henry James, is a story of Americans abroad, such a study of men and women as only Mr. James is capable of making.

Portraits of the Sixties, by Justin McCarthy is a delightful book, reminiscent in character, being made up of pen pictures of the men and women who were prominent during the sixties of the last century.

Our Lady's Inn, by J. Storen Clousten, is a very amusing and unconventional novel of English life, well worth reading.

The Masterfolk, by Haldane McFall, is a novel of Bohemian life in London and Paris—the life of cafes and studios, with a good love story interwoven.

The Smart Set Publishing Co., 452 Fifth avenue, New York.

The Shutters of Silence, a novel by G. B. Sturgis deals with a "striking situation," the centerpiece of which is a young man, who, when a child, was given over to the care of a Trappist monastery in China.

The Trifler, by Archibald Eyre, is a love comedy, English in style and setting, based upon a parliamentary election, although the book does not go into politics seriously.

The Congressman's Wife, by John D. Barry, is a purely American novel, dealing with political and social life in Washington, sketching the effect of corporation influence on the character of a congressman trying to live in Washington on a moderate income.

From the Outlook Co., 287 Fourth avenue, New York:

The New American Navy, by Hon. John D. Long, formerly secretary of the navy, is an excellent volume, giving information as to the development into what is now called the new navy, as well as to tell of its recent exploits. There is much space devoted to the history of the Spanish war, and the Sampson-Schley controversy receives an extended review from the standpoint of the navy department. The interest and value of the text is enhanced by the spirited drawings by Henry Reuterdahl, and with many portraits, photographs and maps.

The Story of a Labor Agitator is written by Joseph R. Buchanan, who bore a prominent part in the labor movement when it was struggling for recognition, in what Henry George called the crucial period between 1880 and 1890.

From Doubleday, Page & Co., 34 Union Square, New York:

The Mark, by Aquila Kempston, is a novel whose scene is laid in India, and there is much concerning native life there and the marvels of Hindoo magic.

The Web, by Frederick Trevor Hill, is a novel of the ways and trickery of the law, which presents the dramatic as well as the corrupt side of litigation.

From the Macmillan Co., 66 Fifth avenue, New York:

Holt of Heathfield, by Caroline Atwater Mason, is the love story of a young clergyman, a fine character, and his determination to help the lowly. It is a fine story.

The Art of Cross-Examination, by Francis L. Wellman, is a really interesting law book, written from 25 years' experience in the court room.

The Reign of Queen Isyl, by Gelett Burgess and Will Irwin, is an eccentric sort of a novel made up of several love stories rolled into one. McClure, Phillips & Co., 141 East 25th st., New York.

The Brazen Calf, by James L. Ford, is a satirical volume on the smart set in New York society, with a thread of love story running through it. Dodd, Mead & Co., 5th avenue and 35th st., New York.

Typical Elders and Deacons, by Rev. James M. Campbell, is made up of twenty character studies, gathered from his experience. Funk & Wagnalls Co., 30 Lafayette Place, New York.

Honor Dalton, a novel by Frances Campbell Sparhawk, is a good, clean story full of inspiration to right living, while, at the same time, interesting and entertaining. Fleming H. Revell Co., Chicago and New York.

The Adventures of an Army Nurse in Two Wars, edited from the diary and correspondence of Mary Phinney, Baroness von Olnhausen, by James Phinney Munroe, comes from Little, Brown & Co., Boston. The two were the civil and the Franco-German wars.

The twelfth volume in Putnam's Science Series is Infection and Immunity, by Geo. M. Sternberg, M. D., Surgeon-General U. S. A. (retired). The book is a popular treatise on the prevention of infectious diseases. Geo. P. Putnam's Sons, 27 West 23rd st., New York.

An Apache Princess is the latest novel by Gen. Charles King. It is a story of the western desert, and there are the old, familiar characters who haunt General King's novels. The Hobart Co., New York.

Poor? by an anonymous writer, is the story of a life, told in a disjointed way, with the intention to urge the theory that the workingman does not get his share. Continental Publishing Co., New York.

Elegies, Ancient and Modern, by Mary Lloyd, is the first volume of a comprehensive study of the elegiac poetry of the world. Albert Brandt, Trenton, N. J.

A third edition of Mystic Masonry, by Dr. J. D. Buck, has just been issued by the Robert Clarke Co., of Cincinnati. The fact that such an issue has been made necessary by a demand shows that the volume has done much to carry out the intention of the author, which was to awaken an interest in the science and symbolism of Freemasonry.

The Coldest Known Liquid.

Liquid hydrogen is by far the coldest liquid known at the present time. At ordinary atmospheric pressure it boils at 422 degrees Fahrenheit and reduction of the pressure by an air pump brings the temperature down to 432 degrees at which the liquid becomes a solid, resembling frozen foam. According to Professor Dewar, to whom the credit is due of having liquefied hydrogen in 1898, the liquid is a colorless, transparent body, and is the lightest liquid known to exist, its density being only one-fourteenth that of water; the lightest liquid previously known was liquid marsh gas, which is six times heavier. The only solid which has so small density as to float upon its surface is a piece of pith wood.—Cassier's Magazine.

The Children's Hour.

ELIZABETH AYRES.

During Christmas week, school circles were gay with Christmas parties, the children's hour, at which the little people "spoke pieces," acted plays, and otherwise displayed their histrionic talents for their own delectation and the entertainment of admiring relatives and friends who fringed the walls as spectators.

Going to school Christmas parties became a mania with those who had knowledge of what was happening in the children's hour. A visit to one party created a desire to go to another, and there were many frail women and strong men who braved the ice or slush, and slid or waded to three or four a day, to witness the "exercises."

In the school rooms all signs of work were put away. The desks were cleared of books; holiday greens festooned the walls; and gaily-decked Christmas trees stood in the corners. Besides the Christmas exhilaration, there was that "last day of school" feeling which invests with the delights of happy anticipation an approaching vacation. When you get that feeling, the present is as naught; the near future a joyous reality; and the air is vibrant with pleasant expectations. The contagion was in the atmosphere. You felt something was doing even if the children were quiet and controlled and seemed to be taking themselves seriously.

At the kindergartens, the little ones conducted themselves with grave decorum, though an occasional jig step, entirely out of order, or a sudden bubble of laughter, let you know the solemn infants who were impersonating birds, or snowflakes, or brownies, were very much alive and likely at any moment to perpetrate infantile eccentricities.

There was a tense interval at one of the kindergarten festivals when two small boys wished to appropriate the same chair at the same moment. It looked like trouble coming. Menacing frowns darkened the rosy faces; a dire conflict threatened until the teacher poured oil on the troubled waters by supplying the demand for chairs, and all was once again, peace on earth; good will to man.

When one attended a celebration in the primary grade, kindergarten ceremonials were not to be expected from children of such advanced years and accomplishments. Here was where you heard the "pieces" and saw the plays in the part of the schoolroom usually sacred to "teacher" and now cleared for action to serve as a stage where the "show" was operated.

There was one program opened by a youthful Demosthenes who spoke in rhyme at considerable length, with no lapse of memory or striving for spectacular expression. Apparently he was unconscious of his audience. His eyes were fixed on a spot high upon the wall, and to this spot he imparted the information sternly confided:

"'Tis the gladdest seasón of the year,
For Christmas day will soon be here,"

and several other verses to the same effect.

When he had finished speaking, he doubled himself up by way of a bow and sought the seclusion of his desk, breathing heavily. The youth sitting behind him promptly reached over and pulled his hair, but this indignity passed unheeded. The speaker's duty was performed, and the worst was not yet to come.

For some time the audience had been made aware that matters of importance were about to take place. The coming event cast its shadow before from the closet dressing-room back of the make believe stage, whence rustlings and whisperings issued, and children's excited faces peeped through a crack made by the stingily opened door. Presently the event began to arrive in the person of one of the dramatic stars. This particular star was the leading lady, distinguished as Miss Smith and acting for the once as schoolmistress in her big sister's skirt which trailed before and behind imperiously. The play was named The Day Before Christmas, and it was one in which, with the exception of those who had leading parts, all the children served as chorus from their desks.

Miss Smith had troubles of her own that afternoon. The way her class behaved was something scandalous. The opening scene was realistic, because in the play as in reality, it took place in a school room. And it began to take place in this manner:

MISS SMITH:
Children, behave! you must be quiet!
You know that if you break the rule,
And keep up such a noise and riot,
I shall detain you after school.

TOMMY:
Yes, but, Miss Smith, to-morrow's Christmas!

MISS SMITH:
We're going to have plum pudding and—
That will do, Tommy! What's an isthmus?

TOMMY:
A narrow neck of waterland.

MISS SMITH:
Wrong; go down foot! Next child may answer.

WILLIE (raising his hand):
Please, teacher, may I get a drink?

MISS SMITH:
No! Do your problems, if you can, sir.

SUSIE (raising her hand):
Miss Smith, Tom's gone and took my ink!

MISS SMITH:
Children, you should be sweet and loving,
And treat each other courteously.

JENNIE:
Teacher, can't Willie Green stop shoving?
He's torn my apron! Only see!

MISS SMITH (exasperated):
I'll punish every single scholar!
Oh, dear, why do you act this way?

TOMMY:
Honest, Miss Smith, I've got to holler;
Because to-morrow's Christmas Day!

All the pupils (jumping around and pounding on their desks):
Hooray, Hooray,
For Christmas Day.
Of course we have to act this way.

The disorder was not especialy disorderly, but in the midst of the supposed pandemonium, Santa Claus, the real star, arrived, made up for the part in a turkey-red calico ulster, a peaked cap, and a red-cheeked mask from which depended a fine display of white whisker, described by the irreverent as "billy goat."

Santa Claus, the merry, old cut-up, invited Miss Smith to take her bonnet and go home, leaving him in charge of her school. Miss Smith meekly submitted, and, after having considerable trouble with her bonnet-strings, she retired to the green room. Then the fun commenced fast and furious. Santa Claus, as master of ceremonies, insisted upon having lessons, but he summoned from their lair in the closet various gods and goddesses and other renowned personages, as instructors.

Botany was first attacked. A plump, smiling little Flora answered the call. In a bright, blue gown, garlanded with flowers, Flora played her role with grace and finish. In fact she knew every part in the drama, and, when she had spoken her lines, stood whispering those of the other actors who made their entrances and exits.

Speaking after the manner of Uncle Josh, Santa Claus done noble. He hailed from mystic realms Aurora Borealis, the Man in the Moon, Diana, Euclid, Hygeia, Jack Frost, and several other ladies and gentlemen famed to science and the world. Among those present was Father Time, a jolly sage with flowing white beard and forelock, stuck on with courtplaster. He wore a classic robe of sheeting dyed grey, but in spite of his deep disguise there were those who knew him well.

The pathos of the ravin wrought by age, etched on his face with burnt cork, caused tears to flow until there was not a dry eye in the house. The venerable savant was brought from the shades to teach history and shamelessly refused.

"Oh, history only dullness brings,
And dates are very stupid things:
The day before Christmas who would care
What battle was fought, or how, or where?"
said reckless Father Time.

No one did care in the least, and the school arose as one man and let it be known.

"Ha,' quoth Father Time, "I spoke true,
Then here's all the lesson I'll teach to you.
I'll give you just one date to remember,
And that's—the 25th of December."

(Applause and cheers).

After which—oh, Father Time you gay deceiver—he skipped with glee and smiled benignly.

The Lord of Misrule pranced jangling in with cap and bells, bringing affairs to a climax. There was a round-up of all the characters in a grand finale, where, with hands on their hearts, the players carolled blithely:

"A merry Christmas to all, and
To all a good-night."

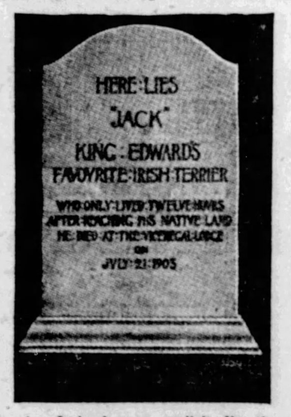
The curtain was down and the lights were out—figuratively speaking, but next year—next year—the children's hour will come again, and, remember this, it gives joy to be there.

A GUARANTEED CURE FOR PILES.

Itching, Blind, Bleeding or Protruding Piles. Your druggist will refund money if PAZO OINTMENT fails to cure you in 6 to 14 days. 50 cents.

PET DOG'S GRAVE.

During King Edward's recent visit to Ireland his favorite pet dog was taken ill suddenly and, despite the best medical attention, died in a few hours. The dog was a little Irish terrier named Jack. The king had the dog embalmed and on



leaving Ireland gave explicit directions as to the manner in which it should be buried and the style of tombstone to be erected over it. The tomb, which is shown in the accompanying illustration, has just been completed.

Too Much for Him.

Algy (as he takes up the wine list)—Aw—champagne's awfully, beastly bad for one y'know.

Trixie (not to be put off)—It's not bad for two, though!—Ally Sloper's Half Holiday.

Factory Price

Direct to You

We are the only general merchandise house which owns, controls and directly manages a vehicle factory. We build our vehicles from the ground up and know what's under the paint. We add but one small profit to the cost of material and labor, hence our customers are getting a better made job in a finer finish and at a lower price than can possibly be secured elsewhere.

$19.80

"LEADER" Road Wagon — Imitation leather trimmed; carpet, wrench and shafts; just as illustrated.

Write for further description.

$25.50

"CHALLENGE" Buggy — 24 in. body, cloth trimmed; top, bad and side curtains, storm apron, carpet and shafts. Write for details.

We also have better grades up to the very best and most stylish that can possibly be put together.

VEHICLE CATALOGUE FREE. Send for it today. It will give particulars about the above work. It also illustrates and describes the newest and best line of Runabouts, Stanhopes, Buggies, Phaetons, Surreys, Carriages, Carts, Spring Wagons, etc., ever quoted direct to the buyer. It explains the difference between good and unreliable work—between the hand-painted and the dipped buggy—and also explains our Guarantee of Satisfaction and

50 Days' Trial Offer.

Send a postal today for our Vehicle Cat. No. E1.

Montgomery Ward & Co.
Chicago

A special circular quoting our entire line of Sleighs, Sleds, etc., will be sent at the same time, if you request it.

Deafness Can Be Cured.

I Have Made the Most Marvelous Discovery for the Positive Cure of Deafness and Head Noises and I Give the Secret Free.

With This Wonderful Mysterious Power I Have Made People Deaf for Years Hear the Tick of a Watch in a Few Minutes.

Send Me No Money—Simply Write Me About Your Case and I Send You the Secret by Return Mail Absolutely Free.

After years of research along the lines of the deeper scientific mysteries of the occult and invisible of Nature-forces I have found the cause and cure of deafness and head noises, and I am enabled by this same mysterious knowledge and

I Have Demonstrated That Deafness Can Be Cured.—Dr. Guy Clifford Powell.

power to give to every unfortunate and suffering person perfect hearing again; and I say to those who have thrown away their money on cheap apparatus, salves, air pumps, washes, douches and the list of innumerable trash that is offered the public through flaming advertisements, I can and will cure you and cure you to stay cured. I ask no money. My treatment method is one that is so simple it can be used in your own home. You can investigate fully, absolutely free and you pay for it only after you are thoroughly convinced that it will cure you, as it has thousands of others. It makes no difference with this marvelous new method how long you have been deaf, nor what caused your deafness, this new treatment will restore your hearing quickly and permanently. No matter how many remedies have failed you—no matter how many doctors have pronounced your case hopeless, this new magic method of treatment will cure you. I prove this to you before you pay a cent for it. Write today and I will send you full information absolutely free by return mail. Address Dr. Guy Clifford Powell, 264 Auditorium Building, Peoria, Ill. Remember, send no money—simply your name and address. You will receive an immediate answer and full information by return mail.

The Farmstead

The following questions are submitted to readers for answer. We do this in the hope of getting the results of actual and successful experience, which will be the most valuable answers possible:

I have a large mare that is sweenied in the hip, and is quite lame. I would like to know what to do for it.—M., Hillsboro, Ohio.

I saw in your most valuable paper of December 10, a remedy for bone spavin, to take the enlargement away. Would like to know if it would take the enlargement of a splint in the same way, as I have a valuable young horse with one; have blistered several times.—L., Middletown, Cal.

We will be glad to have the person who sent in the recipe answer this question.

Will some one tell me how to make snow shoes? What to use? How to fasten on the foot, etc.?—V., Cuba, N. Y.

Please, friends, tell me what to do for apple scab in my orchard.—W., Lexington, Ky.

What is the best thing to use to destroy bark lice?—G., Marysville, O.

How can I polish ox horns to use in making a hat rack?—G., Kansas City, Kansas.

Hog Cholera.

Editor Farmstead:—Will you please tell how many states are subject to hog cholera? I have read that it is found in the middle western states only. Is it right?—H., Ottoville, O.

We ask readers to contribute what they know in answering this question. So far as the editor is informed (and he does not pretend to know it all) the disease has been worst on lowlands and river bottoms in the middle west. But the disease is not confined to such localities, we imagine.

Heaves in Horses.

Editor Farmstead:—Please inform H., of Roachdale, Ind., that the best remedy for heaves in horses is to take proper care of their feed, for there is the cause. As a remedy, take:

Gentian, lobella, Jamaica ginger, ground licorice and flaxseed meal, each one pound; give a large tablespoonful of this mixture three times a day. Feed ground feed with it. This will cure if the case is not too bad, and if proper care is used in feeding. Do not give too much hay or other loose fodder.—T., Fairwell, Mich.

Blood Out of Order.

Editor Farmstead: For L., of Fisher, Pa.—From the brief description you give, your stallion's blood is out of order. I use the following: Six oz. black antimony, 6 oz. sulphur, 4 oz. resin, 4 oz. copperas and 4 oz. saltpeter. Have the druggist mix the dose. One tablespoonful three times a day.

I keep my stallions in box stalls loose, not less than 14 by 14 feet. Keep them clean and well aired. Do not let any manure ferment in them. Turn out in a corral on pleasant days and in season exercise them on the road two miles morning and evening, before service in the morning. Never give more than two services in one day. Never! Keep them clean and watch that their feet do not get clogged. Feed two parts oats, one part bran or shorts, no corn at any time, except green sweet corn after the season is past. Feed very little grain in winter, but plenty of hay. Keep a lump of stock salt in the feed box all the time. Water twice a day in winter, three times in summer.—C. Glenwood, Mo.

Concerning Colts.

Editor Farmstead: Please tell D., of Hazleton, Pa., that if he will feed his colt the following, it will come out all right: Sulphur, on pound; copperas, ground, one pound; and flax seed meal, to just keep the bowels open a little. Feed this till the horse is smooth and sleek.

Please let T. N. know that his two-year-old colt wants good hay and a little grain, and entire rest till he is old enough to work, or he will be stifled and sweenied, and made worthless.

There is no such thing as kidney worms in a horse.—V. Fairwell, Mich.

Worms in Hogs.

Editor Farmstead: For L., of Florence, Kan.—Your hogs have worms. I used one teaspoonful turpentine in milk twice a week before I fed in the morning. I kept this up for two weeks with good results.—D., Alton, O.

What Do You Feed?

Editor Farmstead: Please tell C., of Palo Alto, Cal., that if he will let me know through the Blade what he is feeding his horse, the kind of fodder and grain, and the amount, I will let him know what the trouble is that causes over-sweating in his horse.—Ben V., Fairwell, Mich.

Good Butter--Bitter Milk.

Editor Farmstead:—After the milk has set twelve hours, place it over a kettle of hot water till it is scalded; set away 24 hours. It must not freeze nor get sour. Put in the grated carrot, strain it, then salting it, after stirring the cream. Put into the butter one teaspoonful of fine sugar to two pounds of butter. It will be as good as June butter.—D., Prattsville, N. Y.

Editor Farmstead:—For bitter milk feed raw potatoes a few times.—R., South Colton, N. Y.

Wash for Fruit Trees.

Editor Farmstead:—E. of Moons P. O., Ohio, wishes to know if the lime sulphur and salt solution is safe to use on apple, pear and plum trees. It can be used safely on all kinds of trees, but to be effectual it is necessary to make the application thoroughly, that is, covering all the limbs and branches with the mixture. For the trunks use a whitewash brush. This is very important, as the scale works from the bottom upward. Trees should be sprayed in

Question Bureau

RULES.—1.—Your real name and post-office address must be on the sheet with the question. Initials will not do. 2.—Ask only one question; that is, there may be several questions all on the same subject, but not different subjects. 3.—The editor of the Bureau is not allowed to give the address of any person or firm, nor about the reliability of any person or firm, nor where you can buy anything or sell anything—nothing in the way of free advertising. 4.—We reserve the right to decline to answer any question not of general interest; and will not answer any questions concerning prices of old coins, stamps, etc. 5.—Don't ask replies by mail. If a question is of general interest to our readers, we will reply in print, but never by mail.

Citizenship Not a Voting Right.

A friend of mine says that anyone joining the regular army is compelled to renounce his citizenship, and so has no right to vote. We agreed to leave it to The Blade.—J. N. S., Burlington, Wash.

Your friend is entirely wrong. He confuses two entirely different things—citizenship and the right to vote. A citizen is a member of a state, especially of a republic. He owes allegiance to the government, and is entitled to its protection. But the state has the right to fix the qualifications of voters, to decide what citizens shall be entitled thereto. Citizen and voter are by no means equivalent terms. A person may be a citizen yet not a voter; but he can not be a legal voter without being a citizen. Citizenship does not confer, of itself, the right to vote.

In our double system of government—state and national—the latter, in the constitution, defines who are citizens. It says that "all persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States, and of the state wherein they reside." Hence a new-born babe is a citizen; so are all children, and all women. But each state has the right to decide who shall be voters. In most states, their laws provide that all male citizens of years of age shall have the right to vote—thus excluding all under that age, and all women. Four states allow all women over 21 to be voters for all offices.

Each state has the right to decide who may be voters. There is but one restriction on the states in this matter. It is that in the fourteenth amendment to the constitution, which prohibits any state from restricting the right to vote on account of "race, color, or previous condition of servitude." A state may impose any other restriction on suffrage. It may require payment of a poll-tax as a requisite; it may provide that only those who possess a certain amount of property may vote. It may impose an educational restriction. Mississippi has an educational restriction, and so have a number of other states. A case was brought under it several years ago and taken to the supreme court of the United States, which declared the law constitutional.

As regards soldiers, whether regulars or volunteers, the reason they can not vote is because they can not be at home at election time. A man can vote only at his place of residence; and soldiers generally are not stationed at home. If one happened to be, or was at home on furlough, on election day, he could vote. The only exceptions to this are Arkansas, Indiana, New Mexico and Ohio—in each of which is a state law prohibiting United States soldiers or marines from voting when stationed on duty therein.

Hence you see your friend is entirely wrong. His idea that a soldier is compelled to "renounce his citizenship" is a grotesque error.

The Word "Holy."

Was the Bible the first literature in the Anglo-Saxon language? If not, give a quotation from near that date showing the use of the word "holy" in secular speech or writing. When did the word cease to be used except in reference to religious subjects?—W. M. C., Hoonah, Alaska.

We could wish that you had stated clearly why you asked the question in such form. We are in doubt as to what you are really seeking to know. You seem to have the misconception that the word holy was unknown in the languages of Northwestern Europe before the people were converted to Christianity. The idea of which the word is the expression is undoubtedly existed long before Christianity; and among all people who worshiped the gods of any religious system.

The Anglo-Saxon form of the word was halig, from the Old Saxon helag, Old High Germ helilag, Middle High Germ heilic, Gothic hellig, Icelandic hellagr. Probably this word is from hail, an original root in the tongue from which all these languages were derived, meaning health, safety, salvation, happiness, which in the form of hael means united long before Christianity; and among all people who worshiped the gods of any religious system.

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The Bible was not the first work committed to writing in Anglo-Saxon, and we are unable to give such a quotation as you request. The word must have existed prior to the translation of the Bible, otherwise it would not have been used. In translating from our tongue into another, it is one of the great difficulties to find a word which expresses the idea of a word in the language for which you are translating. If this does not make clear what you want, write again.

Mayflower Descendants.

Have you any way that you could tell me the names of the children of John and Priscilla Alden, of the Mayflower? also their daughters' names after their marriage? and the names Faithful, Pardon and the like, originate with the Pilgrims or Puritans?—U. S., Fond du Lac, Wis.

We have nothing which gives the information. Probably the Society of Mayflower Descendants are in possession of the facts. It was organized in 1894, and has a membership of 3,000. The secretary-general is Richard Henry Greene, 235 Central Park West, New York city. Please don't ask questions involving the giving of addresses. The names of the kind referred to originated among English Puritans, and were not peculiar to the Pilgrims.

Temperance Organizations.

Please give the number of temperance organizations up to the present time.—M. M. G., Brockville, Pa.

The principal organization are the Independent Order of Good Templars, the Sons of Temperance, the Women's Christian Temperance Union and a Catholic temperance association whose name we do not recall.

Earth's Central Heat.

Do all scientists agree that the interior of the earth is an intensely heated mass, basing their theory on the fact of heat in mountain tunnels and regular increase of heat in deep shafts, but is there not a faction of scientists who claim that this phenomenon is local and that immensely deep shafts have been dug without increase of heat, and deduce from this that the interior of the earth is not uniformly hot? Supposing the first theory correct, why not tap this fund of warmth in Siberia, United States, and everywhere, and make everybody warm and comfortable at nominal cost?—E. E., Andover, N. Y.

All scientific men of any standing at the present time accept the theory of the intensely heated interior of the earth. Contrary opinions were held by some a half century or more ago, but these have died out. The heat increases at an average of a degree for each 60 feet in depth; but in some cases it increases much more rapidly, in some much more slowly. This is explained by the different conductivity of different kinds of rock. The interior heat of the earth could harly be utilized, if we were able to reach it, but we are not. How could it be done? We have not methods of boring that would enable us to reach the melted interior; and if we could reach it, how utilize it? Take the mighty crater of Haleakala in the Hawaiaan islands. It is a lake of liquid lava. How can its intense heat be utilized for any industrial or other useful purpose? Such speculations on such subjects have a much stronger attraction for those who lack thorough scientific training than for really scientific men. The latter know the utterly unprofitable nature of such theorizing, and devote their attention to more important subjects.

Premium on Gold.

What was the highest premium gold ever reached over the greenback? Give your authority.—E. M. G., Pleasant Lake, Indiana.

The highest premium reached from January 1, 1862, to January 1, 1878, was on July 11, 1864, the quotations for that day ranging from $2.76 to $2.85 in greenbacks for one dollar in gold. The average price of gold (in greenbacks) for that month was $2.58.1. This was really not an advance in gold, but a depreciation of the greenback. It ought to be stated this way: That the average worth of the greenback, in gold, for July, 1864, was 38.7 cents. Gold was really not at a premium, for in the world's markets a dollar in gold would buy no more then than at any other time. It was really a depreciation of the greenback. "As to "authority," the records of any bank in New York at the time will show the correctness of the figures. We quote from Spofford's American Almanac for 1878, page 411, simply because it happens to be the handiest reference book we have. The facts as given above are unquestioned and unquestionable.

Pittsburg and Lake Erie.

Editor Question Bureau: In your answer on the Pittsburg and Lake Erie canal question in the issue of Dec. 24, you make a mistake in assuming that Pittsburg is lower than Lake Erie. I herewith give you levels as copied from the Book of Levels of Pennsylvania Geological Survey. Lake Erie, above ocean level, 573 feet; Ohio river at Beaver, Pa., 666 feet, or 93 feet higher than Lake Erie; Allegheny river, at Pittsburg, 693.50 feet, or 120.50 feet higher than Lake Erie. The summit of a canal route from Pittsburg to Lake Erie would probably be between 300 and 400 feet above Lake Erie.—H. D. M., New Lexington, Pa.

King David.

Will you please give the age of King David at death, and where it can be found?—F. P. Oakland, Kan.

The age of David is not given in the Bible. Josephus, the Jewish historian, says he died at the age of 70, and "was buried in the city of David." This was the name given to Jebus after David captured it, and fixed the royal residence there. It was that portion of Jerusalem on Mount Zion, apparently.

The Size of the Blade.

When will you glue or wire the sheets of Toledo Weekly Blade together? What will it cost to reduce the size of the page to 12x16 inches in size? I am firmly attached to your instructive, entertaining and reliable weekly issue. Multum in parvo expresses it only in part. Fifty-two conundrums a year—how can the publishers give so much value for so little cost to the subscriber?—H. A. S., Milesgrove, Pa.

We have no present intention of doing any of these things. They would add to the cost of the paper to the subscriber, and hence we cannot consider them. To change the form of the paper to the size named, making it in shape like Harper's Weekly, Leslie's Weekly, etc., would involve the purchase of entirely new presses. The two we have, costing $26,000 each, would have to be retained for printing the Daily Blade, and we should have to purchase additional ones, and perhaps even costing more, to print the Weekly in its new form. Don't you think these reasons sufficient? We thank you heartily for your kind words concerning the paper. It is pleasant to find that our efforts to make a good paper are appreciated.

The Queen of Sheba.

Please tell something about the queen of Sheba and Solomon, or give a short sketch of the visit of the Queen of Sheba to Solomon.—M. E., Mt. Olive, Ill.

Sheba was not the queen's name, but the name of her country, which is believed to have been that portion of Arabia now known as Yemen. It took its name from Sheba, a son of Joktan, mentioned in Genesis x, 28, and in 1st Chronicles i, 22.

As to the visit of the Queen of Sheba to Solomon, if you will read 1st Kings, x, verses 1 to 13 inclusive, you will have all that is known. There is no other account of that visit except it.

You have probably noted in the news columns of The Blade that the American government has sent a representative to visit King Menelik of Abyssinia, Africa. The issue of December 24 had the news of Mr. Skinner's arrival at the Abyssinian capital. The Abyssinians believe that their royal family is descended in a direct line from the Queen of Sheba. They say that when she visited Solomon, he placed her in his harem, where she remained a year; that she there bore a son, of whom King Solomon was the father. So King Menelik claims to be descended, in a direct line, from Solomon and the Queen of Sheba.

Government Camels.

In the issue of The Blade of Nov. 26, you said you do not know what became of the camels imported by the government. I saw two of them about July, 1862, at Helena, Ark. They were brought into camp by the Union troops, while stationed at Popes' plantation. What became of them later, I do not know.—M. H., Alpha, Iowa.

Rainbows by Moonlight.

Please inform me if there is any authentic record of moonlight rainbows? I once saw one back in the 60's, but when I tell of it now people seem to doubt the fact.—H. C. B., Leslie, Mich.

Moonlight rainbows are seen, but somewhat rarely. The light from the moon is so much less than that from the sun that it is not very often that the circumstances allow of its producing a bow. On very clear nights, when the moon is full, lunar bows can be seen at Niagara, and also when there is a passing shower, under the same circumstances that produce a solar rainbow.

No Portrait of Jesus.

Are the portraits of Jesus Christ and Mary copies from life paintings of the same, or are they only imaginary?—E. C. O., Vignes, Wis.

No, there is no authentic portrait of either. This is not to be wondered at, for the only modes of portraiture then were sculpture, mosaic and painting. People in humble life, like the family of Joseph the carpenter, could not indulge in such things. There was, indeed, no time when men never made representations of the human figure. There is no portrait of any of the old Hebrew worthies—Abraham, Joseph, Moses, Joshua, Samuel, David, Solomon and all the others of the long line. Pictures of them are entirely ideal.

The most celebrated paintings representing Jesus and his mother are by Italian painters, who have represented the Italian type of face rather than the Jewish. We must not forget that Mary was a Jewess, and her son a Jew. Doubtless both had faces which, could they be reproduced accurately, would be decidedly Jewish. This type of face has been retained for two or three thousand years. There are wall sculptures in Egypt muc holder than the time of Christ, which show the unmistakable Israelite countenance. Further than this, there is no authentic description of Jesus. The famous letter of Lentulus, which describes his face and person, was long ago shown to be a forgery, dating some 400 years after Christ.

Mont Pelee.

Can you, through your valuable paper, describe the condition of Mont Pelee since Prof. Heilprin visited the mountain last June and found an immense conical-shaped rock, which he called the cork, pushed up through the crater to the height of 800 feet? What are the latest reports of the volcano, and has the rock described by Prof. Heilprin continued to grow?—E. H. N., Echo, Wis.

The latest news from the island is that the huge plug of cooled lava is still in the crater of Mont Pelee. It is slowly being pushed upward, but it is not solid like ordinary rock. It is more like an aggregation of black cinders or slag from an iron furnace, and the winds and rain are causing fragments to split off continually from the upper portion. The last observations were that it wears away about as fast as it is pushed up, thus maintaining a height of 600 feet or so above the edge of the crater.

Reciprocity With Cuba.

Referring to the Question Bureau of ec. 27 as regards to reciprocity with Cuba. Several years ago all the leading Republican papers told us that by placing a duty on tin in a few years we would manufacture our own tin, while at that time we were producing none. Were they in the right? If so, why could not the same rule be applied to sugar, inasmuch as Michigan alone will produce this year about 150,000,000 pounds, while six years ago, it did not produce a single pound. California will produce still more, while several other states are making rapid strides in the same industry.—A. C., St. Louis, Mich.

You are quite correct as to the duty on tin. The contention of the Republican party was correct, as has been proved by the development of the giant tin industry in the United States since the passage of the McKinley bill.

The granting of reciprocity to Cuba, including a lower duty on Cuban sugar, does not invalidate the rule. There is a duty on all foreign sugar imported, and that duty has proved itself sufficient to enable sugar beets to be grown with profit, and sugar to be made therefrom. A great industry is thus being fostered by this protective duty, just as the tin industry was fostered.

The reduction of duty on Cuban sugar is but a drop in the bucket. We use so much foreign sugar that, if the entire sugar crop of Cuba were admitted duty free, it would not reduce the price of sugar here. The price of the largest import fixes the price of sugar here. Unless Cuba could produce some ten times as much as she does, her crop could not influence the price.

Watch the course of events, now that the reciprocity treaty with Cuba has gone into effect, and you will see that the Blade is right, and the opponents of the treaty were wrong, when they argued that reciprocity with Cuba would make sugar beet raising unprofitable to the American farmers.

Capitalization.

The dictionary says the names of the seasons should not commence with capital letters. Why? They represent the months whose names are capitalized. I have asked a number of learned people. They said they should not, but could not tell why.—M. L., Catskill, N. Y.

The rule in English is this: That proper nouns shall be capitalized, and common nouns shall not. The names of the seasons are classed as common nouns, hence are not capitalized; the names of the months are proper nouns, and therefore are capitalized.

The tendency of the best writers of modern English is to restrict the use of capitals as much as possible. Fifty years ago words were capitalized far more frequently than now. There is no hard and fast rule for any of these things; the usage of the best writers makes the rules of grammar, capitalization and orthography. The use of italics, for example, is being largely abandoned. Did you note that no italics nor small capitals are used in The Blade? Look over the paper attentively and you will find none—unless in advertisements or headings. All these omissions add to the beauty of the printed page, and are in better taste than was the old custom.

Widows' Pensions.

Please tell me if there is a pension law prohibiting a woman who has been married within ten years receiving a pension if her husband dies?—Old Subscriber, Bucyrus, Ohio.

The "general disability" pension law of June 27, 1890, provides that the widow of any soldier entitled to a pension under it shall not be eligible to a widow's pension if she were married to him after the date above given.

The act of March 3, 1899, provides that no pension whatever shall be granted to any widow who was married to the soldier after that date.

There is a provision in the latter law, which exempts from its prohibition the widows of soldiers in the Spanish and the Philippine wars. They can obtain pensions, if otherwise pensionable.

World's Fair and Silver Dollars.

What date of silver dollars is there a premium on for the world's fair?—J. W. P., Whitehouse, O.

Not any one. The Blade has explained this. It is a mere catch. The joker puts a question like this: "Do you know that you can pay your railway fare, and all your expenses at the St. Louis fair, with 1890 silver dollars?" And then, unless you have your wits about you, you bite, and look in your pocket to see if you have one dated 1890. Then you are told that he said "1890 silver dollars"—that is, $1.80. You could pay your expenses with $1,890, whether in silver, gold or paper. Of course the joker uses any date he chooses, from 1878 to 1903. Now do you catch on? Remember that "1895 silver dollars" don't mean "a silver dollar dated 1895"—or any other date.

Pay for the Friars' Lands.

I would like to know why we pay $7,250,000 to the friars in the Philippines, when we had paid Spain the price then agreed upon?—M. M. H., Wilmington, O.

You must bear in mind the difference between ownership of the islands—that is, the sovereignty over them—and the ownership of the titles to the farms and lands and houses and lots in the islands. When a region passes from one sovereignty to another, that does not affect the title of the individuals who own farms or other real estate therein.

The sovereignty of the Philippines passed from Spain to the United States, but that did not change the title to lands owned by individuals and corporations. The United States, of course became the owner of the docks, public buildings, navy yard at Cavite, lighthouses and whatever lands there were in the islands, the title to which was in the Spanish government. What we paid Spain was for these. The friars had title to their lands, as have all that any other Filipino landholders had to their lands. And it is perfectly proper that the United States should pay for them—just as it would pay the owner, here in the United States, for a piece of ground on which to erect a customhouse or a postoffice. The lands owned by the friars are nearly all farms, and they will be sold at a fair price. Most of them, it is said, will be bought by their present tenants, who will be given the first chance, as is right and proper.

The Mollie Maguires.

Will you please tell where the Mollie Maguires originated, and who they were? —O. T., Middle Fork, O.

The name was first given to an Irish secret society, to harass landlords. It was organized about 1820, and the members, when they made attacks, were disguised as women. The name was also given to a lawless secret society among Pennsylvania coal miners, in the decade from 1870 to 1880.

Miscellaneous.

C. A. J., Orlando, Fla.: We have not its history.

C. B. F., Grand Ridge, Ill.: We are sorry that we can not comply with your request.

J. P. B., Seneca, Mo.: We can do far better. We have nearly complete files of the Weekly Blade since 1837.

E. D. T., Olive Branch, Miss.: Only those Indians belonging to the tribes already settled in the Indian Territory.

B. P., Hawick, Minn.: We do not know. The only way to find out would be to pay a patent attorney to make a search of the patent files.

G. W., Goodfield, Ill.: Vulcanized rubber can not be melted over. Unvulcanized rubber can be, but it would require vulcanizing to harden it.

W. B., North English, Iowa: The land on which Philadelphia is situated was not leased for 100 years. It looks as though some swindling scheme is on foot.

C. W. M. L., Kingston, Mo.: There never was a treaty between Mexico and the United States concerning Lower California. The statement you read was false.

B. E. N., Ionia, Mich.: "Blowing wells" are known in various parts of the country, but no scientific explanation of the phenomenon has ever been given to our knowledge.

B. K., Bobo, Ind.: You are mistaken. In dreams the operations of the mind are not "carried on with diminished strength and activity." They are feeble and evanescent.

E. H., Kansas City, Kan.: No, we don't believe it would be worth while. Dreams are inconsequential and inconsequous, and very few of them would make a story worth the space.

T. M., Jonesboro, Tex.: We are not prepared to believe it is true. Have you tried it, and often enough to know that it not only is so, but that it always happens that way? Be sure of the fact first.

T. S. G., Viola, W. Va.: The bones referred to were evidently not human, but belonged to some large animal, possibly to some of the mighty reptiles of a past geologic age. Only a naturalist could decide what they are.

G. V. B., Mt. Pleasant, Iowa: We can find nothing recent about draining the Zuydee Zee. The Waterstaat, a government department of Holland, has long discussed plans for doing it, but we have not heard that the work has as yet been actually undertaken.

A. I. O., Newpoint, Ind.: It would be entirely useless to agitate such a plan. Try it for yourself, among your friends and neighbors, men who know and respect you, and see if you can get them to stop cigars, and powder-burning on July 4, and contribute the money to any worthy object. You underrate the difficulty of persuading men.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE ON THE CANAL

Some Interesting Facts Now Made Public for the First Time—Emphatic Denial of Complicity in the Bloodless Revolution.

Washington, Jan. 4.—President Roosevelt today transmitted to congress a message urging the ratification of the canal treaty with Panama, as follows:

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I lay before the congress, for its information, a statement of my action up to this time in executing the act entitled "An act to provide for the construction of a canal connecting the waters of the Atlantic and Pacific oceans," approved June 28, 1902.

By the said act the President was authorized to secure for the United States the property of the Panama Canal company and the perpetual control of a strip six miles wide across the Isthmus of Panama. It was further provided that "should the President be unable to obtain for the United States a satisfactory title to the property of the New Panama Canal company and the control of the necessary territory of the Republic of Columbia * * * within a reasonable time and upon reasonable terms, then the President" should endeavor to provide for a canal by the Nicaraguan route. The language quoted defines with exactness and precision what was to be done, and what, as a matter of fact, has been done. The President was authorized to go to the Nicaragua route only if within a reasonable time he could not obtain "control of the necessary territory of the Republic of Colombia." This control has now been obtained; the provision of the act has been complied with; it is no longer possible, under existing legislation, to go to the Nicaragua route as an alternative.

This act marked the climax of the effort on the part of the United States to secure, so far as legislation was concerned, an interoceanic canal across the Isthmus. The effort to secure a treaty for this purpose with one of the Central American republics did not stand on the same footing with the effort to secure a treaty under any ordinary conditions. The proper position for the United States to assume in reference to this canal, and therefore to the governments of the Isthmus, had been clearly set forth by Secretary Cass in 1858. In my annual message I have already quoted what Secretary Cass said. The United States has taken the position that no other government is to build a canal, or, when France recently proposed to come to the aid of the French Panama company by guaranteeing their bonds, the senate of the United States, in executive session, with only some three votes dissenting, passed a resolution as follows:

"That the government of the United States will look with serious concern and disapproval upon any connection of any European government with the construction of any ship canal across the Isthmus of Darien or across Central America, and must regard any such connection or control as injurious to the just rights and interests of the United States and a menace to its welfare."

Under the Hay-Pauncefote treaty it was explicitly provided that the United States should control, police and protect the canal which was to be built, keeping it open for vessels of all nations on equal terms. The United States thus assumed the position of guarantor of the canal and of its peaceful use by all the world. The guaranty included, as a matter of course, the building of the canal. The enterprise was recognized as responding to an international need; and it would be the veriest travesty on right and justice to treat the governments in possession of the Isthmus as having the right, in the language of Mr. Cass, "to close the gates of intercourse of the great highways of the world, and justify the act by the pretension that these avenues of trade were the property of them and that they choose to shut them."

The only criticisms made upon the administration for the terms of the Hay-Herran treaty were to the effect that they were too much to Colombia, not for failure to grant enough. Nor is the fact to be lost sight of that the rejected treaty, while generously responding to the pecuniary demands of Colombia, in respect to the benefits provided for the construction of the canal in conformity with the express requirements of the act of the congress of June 28, 1902. By that act, as heretofore quoted, the President was authorized to acquire from Colombia, for the purposes of the canal, "perpetual control" of a certain strip of land; and it was expressly required that the "control" thus to be obtained should include "jurisdiction" to make police and sanitary regulations and to establish such judicial tribunals as might be agreed on for their enforcement. It has been stated in public prints that Colombia objected to stipulations to acquire from Colombia "jurisdiction" and "control," and that they involved a relinquishment of her "sovereignty;" but in the light of what has taken place, this alleged objection must be considered as an afterthought.

Under it that no nation could construct and guarantee the neutrality of the canal with a less degree of control than was stipulated for in the Hay-Herran treaty. A refusal to grant such degree of control was a refusal to grant to us under any practicable treaty at all. Such refusal, therefore, squarely raised the question whether Colombia was entitled to bar the transit of the world's traffic across the Isthmus.

That the canal itself was eagerly demanded by the people of the locality through which it was to pass, and that the people of this locality no less eagerly longed for the uninterrupted benefits the canal can control, are shown by the unanimity of action in the new Panama republic. Furthermore, Colombia, after having rejected the treaty in spite of our protests, when it was in her power to accept it, has since shown the utmost eagerness to accept the same treaty if only the same status quo could be restored. One of the men standing highest in the official circles of Colombia, on November 3, addressed the American minister at Bogota, saying that if the government of the United States would land troops to preserve Colombian sovereignty and the transit, the Colombian government would "declare martial law and, by virtue of vested constitutional authority, when public order is disturbed, (would) approve by decree the ratification of the canal treaty as a part of the general law." The government of the United States proposed a treaty which was not merely just, but generous to Colombia. I will not for one moment discuss the possibility of the United States consenting to such weakness as to abandon the new Republic of Panama.

No Other Route Authorized.

Congress definitely provided that a treaty should be made for building the canal across the Isthmus of Panama; and if after reasonable time, it proved impossible to secure such treaty, that then we go to Nicaragua. The treaty has been made; for it needs no argument to show that the intent of congress was to insure a canal across Panama, and that whether the republic granting the title was called New Granada, Colombia or Panama mattered not one whit. As events turned out, the question of "reasonable time" did not enter into the matter at all. Although, as the months went by, it became increasingly improbable that the Colombian congress would ratify the treaty or take steps which would furnish an equivalent therein, yet all chance of such action on their part did not vanish until the congress closed at the end of October and within three days thereafter the revolution in Panama had broken out, the control of the territory necessary for building the canal then became obtainable. The condition under which alone we could have gone to Nicaragua therefore became impossible of fulfillment. If the pending treaty with Panama should not be ratified by the senate, this would not alter the fact that we could not go to Nicaragua. The congress must decide the route, and there is no alternative under existing legislation.

It was the opinion of eminent international jurists that in view of the fact that the great design of our guarantee under the treaty of 1846 was to dedicate the Isthmus to the purposes of interoceanic transit, and above all to secure the construction of an interoceanic canal, Colombia could not under existing conditions refuse to enter into a proper arrangement with the United States to that end, without violating the spirit and substantially repudiating the obligations of a treaty, the full benefits of which she had enjoyed for over fifty years. My intention was to consult the congress as to whether under such circumstances it would not be proper to announce that the canal was to be dug forthwith; that we would give the terms that we had offered and no others; and that if such terms were not agreed to we would enter into an arrangement with Panama direct, or take what other steps were needful in order to begin the enterprise.

Coming of Revolution Known.

There was a possibility that the people of the Isthmus, who had formerly constituted an independent state, and who until recently were united to Colombia only by a loose tie of federal relationship, might take the protection of their own vital interests into their own hands, reassert their former rights, declare their independence upon just grounds, and establish a government competent and willing to do its share in this great work for civilization. This possibility is what actually occurred. Everyone knew that it was a possibility, but it was not until towards the end of October that it appeared to be an imminent probability. Although the administration, of course, had special means of knowledge, no such means were necessary in order to appreciate the possibility, and toward the end the likelihood, of such a revolutionary outbreak and of its success. It was a matter of common notoriety. Quotations from the daily papers could be indefinitely multiplied to show this state of affairs.

(A great many quotations are given.)

On October 15 Commander Hubbard, of the navy, notified the navy department that, though things were quiet on the Isthmus, a revolution had broken out in the state of Cauca. On October 16, at the request of Lieutenant-General Young, I saw Capt. C. B. Humphrey and Lieut. Grayson Mallet-Prevost Murphy, who had just returned from a four months' tour through the northern portions of Venezuela and Colombia. Until they landed at Colon they had no knowledge that a revolution was impending, save what they had gained from the newspapers. They reported to General Young that active preparations for a revolution were making. In view of all these facts I directed the navy department to issue instructions such as would insure our having ships within easy reach of the Isthmus in the event of trouble arising. Orders were given on October 19 to the Boston to proceed to San Juan del Sur, Nicaragua; to the Dixie to prepare to sail from League Island; and to the Atlanta to proceed to Guantanamo. On October 20 the Nashville was ordered to proceed to Colon.

On November 2 when the Colombian congress having adjourned, it was evident that the outbreak was imminent, and when it was announced that both sides were making ready forces whose meeting would mean bloodshed and disorder, the Colombian troops having been embarked on vessels, the following instructions were sent to the commanders of the Boston, Nashville, and Dixie:

"Maintain free and uninterrupted transit. If interruption is threatened by armed force, occupy the line of railroad. Prevent landing of any armed force with hostile intent, either government or insurgent, at any point within 50 miles of Panama. Government force reported approaching the isthmus in vessels. Prevent their landing if, in your judgment, the landing would precipitate a conflict."

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THE TOLEDO BLADE.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 7, 1904.

Largest and Best Weekly Published and Largest Circulation.

TOLEDO BLADE CO.....Publishers
ROBINSON LOCKE.....Editor

To THE BLADE is a weekly newspaper for intelligent American citizens. It aims to cover, each week, all news topics of real interest to all wideawake and thinking men. Its editorial page is one of the strongest and most thoughtful in the United States. Its special departments are carefully edited, and the whole paper is intended for the homes of the free American people.

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CIRCULATION LAST WEEK - 161,000

DECEMBER PREMIUMS.

The largest club of subscriptions sent us last month was 170, sent by J. W. Allen, of Oberlin, Kansas. We have, therefore, sent the premium watch to Mr. Allen, as promised. Let us see who will send the largest club this month.

THE CHICAGO HOLOCAUST.

The awful tragedy on December 30 at the Iroquois theatre in Chicago, benumbs the faculties with horror. In the brief space of ten minutes nearly 600 people lost their lives, or at the rate of one per second. History offers hardly a parallel to the horror of it. Never was there such quick slaughter in any battle. In the great Chicago fire, when the business heart of the city was swept by flame, not over 200 lives were lost. Death did not drive his chariot with greater speed when Mount Pelee vomited fire on Martinique. It is almost impossible for the human mind to comprehend the terrible details of the disaster.

The Iroquois was the latest acquisition to Chicago's complement of playhouses. Architects, builders and owners declared that it was the nearest approach to a fire-proof theatre in the country; that there were more exits than in any other theatre; that every appliance known to human skill to ensure the safety of patrons, was employed in the construction and equipment. Yet, in face of these assertions, there is the awful fact that the flames sprang from stage to ceiling and swept the balconies with the speed of a tornado, its hot blasts suffocating the poor unfortunates and dropping them in their tracks by the score.

There was an explosion, but as is the case in the first flush of all such calamities, no one appears to be certain what caused it. Time and investigation alone will reveal the true story. Some say it was the boilers located near the exits in the rear. Others declare that it came from the stage way. But this explosion blew out the skylights, causing a draft. Just at this moment efforts were made to lower the asbestos curtain. Unkind fate! The blast of air bellied the curtain, and it refused to work after being dropped half way. This gave the demonic flames the very assistance they needed to make their horrid slaughter complete. The rush of air through this aperture lifted them to the ceiling and thence to the balconies, where their human prey was packed helpless. Men, women and children fought for life. It was a battle to the death, not of enemies, but of neighbors, of brothers and sisters, of husbands and wives, goaded to frenzy by the instinct of self-preservation. The very thought of it chills the blood. Pray God, the world may be spared the like of it again.

Spectators express the opinion that but for the panic, all might have been saved. But someone—a man—yelled fire. Apprehension became a certainty. Uneasiness gave way to terror. Restlessness grew into a panic and quicker than tongue can tell, the audience, bereft of sense, rushed blindly for the exits, bent on making its escape from the pursuing flame. The discovery of bodies, piled twelve deep at the approach to these exits, shows how destructive was the panic.

On the other hand, firemen and policemen who forced their way into the theatre deny that the panic was the sole agent of destruction. They found corpses sitting bolt upright in the seats, as of persons who were determined not to get into the crush in the doors, and who felt certain of rescue. These people were evidently suffocated by gas, the origin of which is yet to be investigated.

The lesson of the fire should be taken home by owners and builders of theatres. A fire-proof building equipped with seats of wood, and filled with inflammable material, is not the place where thousands can safely congregate. American theatres must be equipped with non-combustible scenery, and fitted up with material that will not make rich food for flames. We may sacrifice something of beauty in thus denuding the ceilings of decorations and the walls and boxes of draperies, but we will afford a greater measure of protection to our loved ones, and that is of prime importance.

PANAMA'S NEW GOVERNMENT.

Under the direction of the revolutionary junta, Panama is going ahead rapidly in organizing a permanent form of government. On Sunday, December 27, elections were held for thirty-five members of a constitutional convention, which will meet on January 15, and adopt a constitution for the new republic. It is expected that Senor Amador will be chosen the first president.

The matter of most interest to those who are interesting themselves in the framing of the constitution is to avoid the weak spots common to the organic acts of most of the South American republics. It seems that the chief occupation of a vice president is plotting to remove the head of the state, so that he may succeed. It is practically determined that Panama will have no vice president, but that the succession, in case the presidency shall become vacant, will be vested in the secretary of state. As the latter is appointed by the president, and is removable at will, he can hardly take the risk of plotting, when he knows that any suspicion of it will be the signal for his removal.

It is well that the Panaminos should prepare the best form of constitution possible; but, after all, the chief guarantee of stability in the government will rest in the policy of the United States to preserve order. Since 1846, we have been guaranteeing and enforcing freedom of transit over the Panama railroad, under treaty of that year. When the canal becomes our property, the ownership of the Panama railroad will pass to us, as it is owned by the present French canal company. It is to be expected that the United States will protect its own property, and enforce stable conditions.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE ON THE PANAMA TREATY

The two reasons for the great popularity of President Roosevelt among the American masses are that he is absolutely sincere and straightforward, and that he does things when the time comes, without delaying and wasting time. His message to Congress on the new Panama canal treaty illustrates both these traits. He gives a resume of all that was done in the matter of the treaty rejected by Colombia, tells why the government looked for a revolution on the isthmus, and the precautions taken to prevent interruption of transit. Then he proceeded, without loss of time, to negotiate a treaty with the new republic.

The message answers fully and completely the insinuations and inquiries of the Democrats in the Senate. Senator Morgan, who would sooner see the canal project fail than to have the work located anywhere else than across Nicaragua, has his theory that the President, after Colombia rejected the treaty, could not make a treaty with anybody else for the Panama route, but was then required by the existing law to negotiate with Nicaragua. This contention the President shows to be wrong. The assertions of bad faith, or secret conniving to create a revolution in the district of Panama, all fall to the ground, their falsity clearly shown.

To the objection that a new government should not be recognized as independent until it has shown its ability to maintain its independence, the President, after discussing the conditions existing, makes a complete and satisfactory reply. Our treaty rights, our national interests and safety, and the interests of the civilized world, demanded prompt recognition, and the taking of the diplomatic steps necessary to obtain the canal strip.

The treaty has been made; it has been ratified by Panama; it needs only ratification by the United States Senate to make it effective. The urgency of prompt action is strongly set forth by the President, and if the Senate does not move with celerity, the country should speak with no uncertain tones, and demand that it shall do its duty. The rejection of the treaty will not restore Panama to Colombia; it will not relieve us of the duty of maintaining unobstructed traffic across the isthmus. It would be but an obstructive action. The senators own it to the nation to act at once, and without needless speechmaking.

The message will be found on the third page of this paper.

WAR IS IMPENDING IN THE EAST

"There is no war today; tomorrow there may be war," was the significant opening sentence of Wednesday's issue of the Novoe Vremya, the official organ of the Russian government in St. Petersburg. The article continues: "We believe Japan will not place Russia in a position where to yield would appear to be a renunciation of the defense of her vital interests in the Far East. Russia does not desire war, but nobody in Russia will permit the Japanese or their friends to execute a diplomatic dance upon Russia's peaceful disposition. In firm consciousness Russia will await events."

This expresses the attitude of Russia. Put into plain English, divested of diplomatic falsity, it means that Japan must not interfere with Russia's plans of aggression in the Far East, under penalty of war. Hypocritical to the last degree, the bureaucracy of St. Petersburg assumes the attitude of one met by unjust and humiliating demands, and of being forced into a war by the vainglory and ambitions of the little kingdom of Japan.

The outlook is extremely gloomy. That Japan will recede from her position is hardly to be expected. It would be humiliating to the last degree. Any real hope of averting war must come through a yielding on the part of Russia herself. This is not impossible, for she is fond of bluffing until the very last moment. But even this hope is a small one, and the probabilities all point to war in the opening days of the new year. The great powers of Europe perpetrated a blunder at the close of the war between China and Japan in 1894. A brief resume of the conditions which have led to the present impasse may be interesting.

Ever since united Europe prevented Russia from getting an ice-free seaport and made the sultan guardian of the entrance to the Black Sea, the Russians have turned their faces eastward, seeking by means of the vast trans-Siberian railroad an ice-free seaport in Asia. Meantime Japan, weary of her isolation as an island empire, sought to gain a foothold on the mainland of Asia by securing an ascendancy over Corea, a nation of about 11,000,000 inhabitants, occupying a mountainous peninsula of 85,000 square miles, which reaches southward from Manchuria, between the Yellow sea and the Japan sea. China and Japan both claim to be suzerain over this weak people.

In 1894, when China sued for peace in the conflict with Japan, she ceded to the latter power not only the island of Formosa, but the Manchurian province of Liao Tung, which reaches from the north of Corea to the Gulf of Pechili, the sea threshold of the route to Pekin. At this point Russia, supported by France and Germany, refused to allow Japan to take the province which she had conquered. Japanese statesmen, wild with anger, were forced to submit. Today Russia occupies and has virtually annexed the province from which she ousted Japan only eight years ago. It is this situation that arouses Japan to the present pitch of fury which threatens to precipitate the greatest war of modern years. Japan doubtless looks to Great Britain for support as the result of the treaty of February, 1902, in which the two countries agreed in case war should ensue, and if other powers should join the aggressor in hostilities against one of the contracting parties, the other should go to its assistance.

It may seem incredible that Japan, in spite of exaggerated national vanity and self-confidence, would dare to attack Russia single-handed. But perhaps the Japanese soldiery will fulfill the opinions of all the American officers who saw their splendid work in the advance on Pekin, and the storming of the city. Still, the disparity of force is enormous. Japan's army on a war footing is 474,000 men, while Russia can bring into the field over 5,000,000. Against this must be put the fact that Russia can not get the bulk of her army to the scene of hostilities for months. The war will be largely a naval conflict in which Japan's 58 warships and 86 torpedo boats will be pitted against Russia's 119 warships and 225 torpedo boats. If England is ready to join Japan, however, that puts the matter on a different footing, and the struggle will be on equal terms.

THE "NASBY" REPRINTS BEGIN NEXT WEEK

The Blade has increasingly-frequent requests that we shall republish in its columns a selection of the Nasby Letters.

These requests come from two classes of readers; First, from those who have grown up since the death of Mr. D. R. Locke, in 1887, and who know of his unequalled political satires only by reputation; and, second, from old readers, who recall with delight the reading of the weekly Nasby letters, as they appeared in the columns of The Blade.

Some dozen years ago we printed the larger number of the Nasby letters in a volume, of which we sold nearly 100,000 copies. Many of these were obtained by Blade subscribers, who desired to have the letters in permanent form.

But, when the volume was compiled, there were a number of the letters which could not be included without making the book too bulky. We have concluded, in view of the frequent requests we receive, to publish shortly a selected number of the letters which did not appear in the printed volume. The series will begin in next week's issue, and we can promise all Blade readers, old and new, that the letters are quite as worthy of their perusal as those included in the book.

Each letter will be accompanied, when necessary, with an explanation of the political conditions which called it forth, so that the reader will be able to have a clear understanding of the points of the letter.

THE FARMERS PROSPEROUS.

The final report of the department of agriculture upon the harvests of 1903 tells a story of continued prosperity for the farmers of the United States. The corn crop of the country is valued at 952 million dollars, winter wheat at 286 millions, spring wheat at 237 millions, oats 267 millions, hay 556 millions, and potatoes at 157 millions. These are but the staple crops. The minor ones added many hundred millions in the aggregate to the grand total.

The figures on the cotton crop of the year are not yet completed. The yield in number of bales will probably not equal that of several previous years, but the price is so high that it will bring a record price to the planters. Certainly 1903 was a bountiful year to the agricultural industry, north and south. It has passed into an adage that we can not have hard times in the United States so long as the farmers are prosperous. Certainly, then, there is no reason for gloomy predictions at the present time.

UNCLE SAM'S GOLD PILE.

Uncle Sam starts out the New Year with a very comfortable surplus of the yellow metal. The gold holdings of the treasury are the greatest in the history of the country, an aggregate of $684,000,000, of which nearly one-half is in free gold, the certificates outstanding amounting to $384,900,000. The increase during the year was $69,000,000.

Whne one stops to consider that ten years ago, the country was panic-stricken, because our gold reserve was hovering close to the hundred million mark, which was considered the danger point, the showing is phenomenal. Nor has the accumulation of gold been confined to the government. At the present time the gold in the stock of money of the United States is, in round numbers, $1,300,000,000. If this stock of money could be brought together and melted into a solid mass, it would make a cube of nearly sixteen feet, weighing 2,353 tons, and requiring 147 freight cars to move. Were it coined into eagles and placed edge to edge the line would be 2,116 miles long, or from New York to sixty miles west of Colorado Springs.

In gold, in stock, in circulation and in official holdings, our country surpasses every other nation. The stock of Great Britain is $528,000,000, so that ours is double. The increase in five years here has been $378,000,000. In that period Great Britain has added $90,000,000, France has added $137,000,000, Germany $95,000,000, Austria-Hungary $55,000,000, while Russia has added only $10,400,000 to her stock. In several other countries there has been a reduction.

In all of Europe the total gain in the same interval has been $450,000,000, from which is deducted the falling off in certain nations of $26,000,000, and thus the net increase is about $423,000,000. At the present time our stock of the yellow metal exceeds that of all European countries, and yet their population is five times that of the United States.

Indications are that the current will continue to flow this way at least another year. The country was never in more prosperous condition and the unsettled state of affairs in Europe and Asia is sure to draw heavily on the surplus products of the American farmer and manufacturer.

ARRESTED THE WRONG MEN.

When the Chicago authorities took the proprietors and employer of the Iroquois Theatre into custody, they arrested the wrong men. They should have apprehended the city officials who neglected their duty in the enforcement of the law. True the proprietors may be technically guilty. It may be said that they knew they were violating the provisions of the Chicago ordinances. No doubt they did. But it was not human nature to voluntarily do more than others in the same business were doing.

The fact that the mayor has closed nineteen theatres, as a result of official inspection, shows how widespread was this disregard of the law. There is no evidence to prove that the city officials whose duty it was to inspect these playhouses and see that the law was obeyed, were incapacitated. On the contrary, they drew their salaries with regularity, and, it is presumed, tacitly agreed to the course pursued by the proprietors of the theatres.

Now that the day of reckoning has come, now that over 600 lives have been sacrificed to this open dereliction of duty, the officials suddenly awaken, and with a great parade of virtue, proceed to do that which, had it been done in season, would have precluded the possibility of Chicago's greatest catastrophe. And the more one studies the detail of that frightful tragedy, the more the fact is impressed upon him that it should be classed as wholesale murder.

It may be that the victims did not suffer all the tortures of the inquisition in vain. Every theatre in this country and many in others are being subjected to rigid inspection. Where laws are found deficient to cover the point, new ones are being passed or old ones amended. Where officials have heretofore been negligent, they are looking into matters and making some pretense of enforcing the ordinances as they find them. But why is so great a sacrifice needed to teach men their duty?

No other city should take the lesson of the Iroquois Theatre more to heart than Toledo. Here we have a mayor who does not believe in law, except the law of the individual, and violations are flagrant. That we have escaped a calamity growing out of official laxity does not follow that we always will. We cannot afford to kill off all the people while we are educating ourselves to the ideal of self-government.

MARYLAND JOINS.

The Democrats of Maryland are planning to abridge the right to vote by the adoption of the "grandfather clause," so-called, which has been adopted by a number of other Southern states. The plan is precisely the same. It is, first, to establish an educational qualification for all voters, white and black. Then to this is added the grandfather clause, which excepts from this educational qualification every citizen, otherwise competent as a voter, "who was entitled to vote in one of the states of the Union on January 1, 1867, or at some date prior thereto, or who is a legitimate lineal descendant of some person who was entitled to vote at that time."

That a state may make an educational qualification applicable to all voters without distinction, has been affirmed by the United States supreme court. But the "grandfather clause" has never yet been passed upon by that tribunal. It excepts from the educational qualification all who were citizens on January 1, 1867, and their descendants. On that date, negroes were not citizens. They were made citizens by the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution, which did not become operative until 1868. Hence the "grandfather clause" keeps the educational qualification in force against all negroes, but excepts all white voters from its provisions.

Maryland has not the pretext of the states of the "black belt" for such a provision. In several of them the number of negroes is equal to or greater than that of the white. But Maryland, by the census of 1900, had 952,424 white inhabitants to 235,064 negroes. There is no danger of "negro domination" in the state. The result of this effort will be to bring still more strongly before Congress the duty of obeying the constitutional provision, that where a state abridges the electorate, her representation in Congress shall be correspondingly reduced.

Every mother's son of us in this country owed $60.46 in 1870, but we have reduced the debt to $11.51, and perhaps if we would pay cash, our creditors might be induced to throw off the odd cent.

KNOCKED OUT AS AN ISSUE.

When Panama declared her independence, and the President at once negotiated a treaty with the new republic for the construction by the United States of an isthmian canal, the Democrats in the senate believed at last they had an issue for the Presidential campaign this year. A caucus was held, and an attempt was made to bind all the Democrats to united action on the treaty. The leaders, including Gorman, believed that, by insisting that the United States government fomented and secretly aided the Panama revolution, and by refusing to ratify the treaty on the pretext that it was secured by the underhand and unwarranted method of organizing rebellion, they could carry the voters with them.

Never was a scheme more quickly overthrown. The Democratic senators found they are "not so much," after all. They realized within a very few days that the people of their states were not with them on the proposition. The Democrats in the senate are all from the South, and the people of the South are very strongly in favor of the canal. They understand fully that it will be of great benefit to the entire country, and of especial benefit to the states on the southwestern Atlantic, on the Gulf, and those reached by the Mississippi and its navigable tributaries.

The not only demand the construction of the canal, but they want it as soon as possible. More than that, they do not care particularly how the treaty was secured. A movement to take the isthmus by force of arms, in order to build it, would have been supported by them. In place of following their senators and holding up their hands in holy horror over an imagined fomenting of the Panama revolution, they count it great good luck that it occurred, and don't care a stiver whether Mr. Roosevelt got up the republic of Panama or not. They are hugely pleased at his rapid movements, and they are letting their senators hear from them in no uncertain tones.

As a result, the senators are "explaining" their position in the newspapers. Senator Clay, of Georgia, hastened to make public that, as soon as the Democratic senators are satisfied that this government's course was warranted, they will vote for the treaty. Senator Stone, of Missouri has made a long newspaper explanation of similar tenor. The German scheme for campaign material is dead, and the treaty will be ratified long before the campaign begins. These gentlemen will make long-winded speeches to "save their faces," and then—vote for the treaty. For the government's course has been already fully explained in the senate by Senator Foraker, who made the clearest statement yet given out.

The Russian vice consul whose energy prevented a massacre of the Jews at Urmia, Persia, will likely be given a lesson at knout.

COMMENT OF THE WEEK

The Panama Situation.

The situation in relation to the Panama canal has cleared considerably during the week. The recognition of the new republic by Great Britain without doubt strengthens its position. Colombia has demanded that the status quo be restored in Panama, and that the Unted States keep hands off while Colombia reduces the revolutionists to subjection, or that damages be given to her for the loss of valuable territory.

To these demands no reply has yet been sent. There is talk of Colombia withdrawing her diplomatic representation at Washington.

At Paris the vote at the annual meeting of the Panama Canal company was overwhelmingly against opposition to the United States. There seems to be litle doubt now as to the prospects of the treaty in the United States senate. If the Democrats were to vote solidly against it, it would be defeated, but, according to the present outlook, there will be enough Democratic votes cast with those of the Republicans to insure ratification. This outcome has been brought about by the disclosure of the strength of southern sentiment in favor of an isthmian canal. The people of that section want an inter-oceanic canal, and the present situation gives them the promise of a speedy completion of such an undertaking.

Treasury Conditions.

A shifting in the accounts left the treasury with a surplus to its credit at the end of the first half of the fiscal year. At the end of November there was a deficit of a little over $2,000,000 for the period ending therewith. Early in December it became apparent that there was going to be an excess of receipts over expenditures for the month, and at the end of the first ten days thereof the excess of expenditures for the part of the fiscal year that had elapsed had disappeared, and gave place to a surplus which has since grown rapidly. The surplus at the end of the half year is not, of course, as large as it was at the end of December, 1902, but it leaves the treasury officials in a more satisfactory frame of mind than they were in a month ago.

Japan's War Spirit.

The war spirit is rampant in Japan. The government has already taken active steps to safeguard its interests in Corea. Its officials there have taken control of the Seoul-Fusan railroad, dismissing the president of the road and replacing him by the chief of the Japanese railway board. At an extraordinary meeting the privy council has approved the issue by the cabinet of an emergency ordinance authorizing the guarantee of the principal and interest of an issue of 10,000,000 yen debentures for the purpose of expediting the work on the railway. A high council of war, having for its object the efficient and rapid operation of the army and navy, has been created. The Japanese fleet has been mobilized and disposed in divisions in readiness to begin operations, and the fleet is being augmented by purchases of warships abroad. The ministerial council has decided to transfer $25,000,000 from the educational fund for emergency purposes. Japan has been buying heavily of American flour for some time, 100,000 barrels having been contracted for in Minneapolis within the last ten days. Russia is buying large quantities of American beef, much of it for delivery at San Francisco. The British admiralty, it may be noted, has issued an order requiring the officers and men of the naval reserve to notify the authorities of the addresses to which telegrams can be sent in cases of emergency. Notwithstanding these indications, it seems to be the policy of the czar's government to postpone a contest with Japan just at present, though there can be little doubt of the existence of a feeling in official circles that the possession of Corea is necessary, to round out Russia's possessions in Asia, and that even if deferred for a time the struggle for it must ultimately be fought out with Japan.

The Middle West in 1904.

The great middle west expects continuation of healthy business conditions during 1904. There are no alarming issues at hand, with the exception of the presidential election, and while this may prove to be a factor in causing recessions in certain lines of industry, the election fears are believed to have been discounted for the reason that they have been so freely discussed in recent weeks. Strictly legitimate mercantile and manufacturing business has been of substantial proportions during 1903, and there seems to be every indication that there will be a healthy growth during the ensuing year on account of the conservatism which is likely to mark the procedure of leading business concerns. The greatness of America as a commercial universe is becoming more and more apparent as years roll on, and the opportunities for advancement in many branches of industry are just beginning to assert themselves in a forcible fashion. Under the circumstances, while a little conservatism may be in order from time to time, there seems to be absolutely no chance for a return to the conditions prevalent in the early nineties. The great prosperity of the past few years has brought about a tendency on the part of tradespeople in general to expect much, and as one banker said: "If we do not expect too much, we will not be disappointed, inasmuch as the resources of the country were never better than they are today, while the business houses as a whole have benefited from the experiences of the early nineties, and will strain every nerve and muscle in an endeavor to prevent a return to stagnant trade and business conditions."

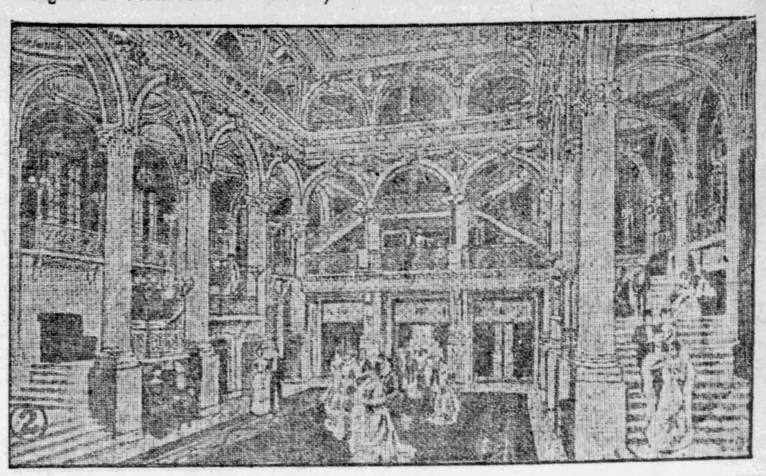
Carnegie's Gifts.

Mr. Carnegie, as usual, makes the year's record in philanthropy. His gifts in 1903, so far as announced, aggregate $26,000,000, and his benefactions include no less than 96 library buildings alone. And it is added that the amounts so disposed of merely consume part of the interest on his investments, leaving the principal wholly untouched. Furthermore, Mr. Carnegie has himself been a beneficiary, some admirer having left him $5,000. It would seem to be very difficult for Mr. Carnegie to carry out his alleged determination to die poor.

The Law of Strikes.

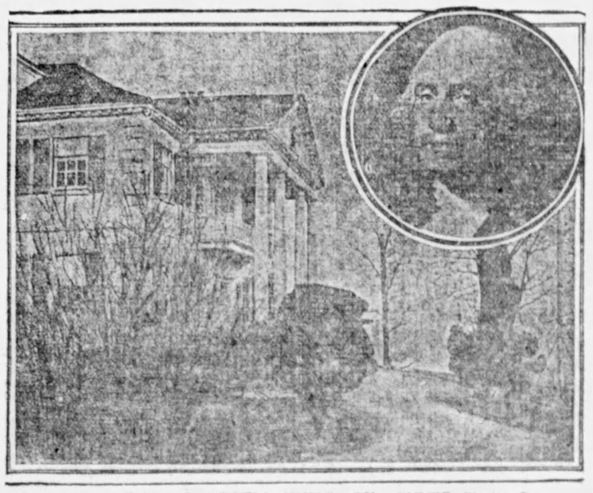
Several silk mill strikers of Paterson, who two years ago were found guilty of contempt of court and appealed finally to the United States supreme court without success, must now pay the penalty of their offenses with costs added. Vice-Chancellor Pitney, of New Jersey, at Jersey City on Monday, commenting on their offense in interfering with non-union workers, declared that it was illegal to make it "uncomfortable" for anyone who wanted to work. "That," he said, "is the law of the land. It has always been the law of the land and it always will be." Too much emphasis cannot be laid upon that fact.

IROQUOIS THEATRE---FOYER, AND STAIRCASE TO FIRST BALCONY.



SCENE ON THE WEST STAIRWAY OF THE IROQUOIS THEATRE DURING THE FIRE.

HISTORIC JUMEL PLACE NOW A PUBLIC PARK



THE OLD MORRIS HOUSE OR JUMEL MANSION.

New York, Jan. 1.—In a formal manner, the old Roger Morris property, on which is situated the historic Jumel mansion, has become a public park.

The opening was made the occasion of a patriotic demonstration, participated in by various historic clubs and organizations. The principal speakers were Senators Chauncey M. Depew and Bishop Henry C. Potter.

The Jumel mansion was visited often during the Revolutionary war by Gen. Washington, who for a while made it his headquarters. For many years patriotic societies advocated the acquisition of the Morris property as a park. Their efforts have finally been crowned with success.

COMMANDERS OF THE OPPOSING FLEETS.

Current Events.

Revised list of Iroquois theatre victims shows 588 dead, including the injured who have died in hospitals. The recorded injured number 103, and there are six unidentified dead.

Every theatre in Chicago closed until further orders. Mayor Harrison declares all violate the law and must stay closed until council takes some action. Alterations must be made and ordinances complied with.

Will J. Davis and Harry J. Powers, part owners and managers of the Iroquois, and City Building Commissioner Williams arrested on charge of manslaughter; give bonds in $10,000 each. Complaintant is Arthur E. Hull, whose wife and three children are victims.

Failure of asbestos curtain to work ascribed by witness at coroner's inquiry to protruding stage reflector. "Explosion" caused by fall of big set piece.

Iroquois theatre fire the absorbing topic in London newspapers, hotels, clubs and exchanges.

Estimated value of diamonds, watches, jewelry and furs lost by victims during panic, placed at $100,000.

Testimony before the coroner tends to show that there was much inflammable stuff on the Iroquois stage, and that conditions were favorable to a fire.

Iroquois fire is likely to bring about a revision in theater insurance schedules. The building department is scored by insurance men.

City mourns for its dead, and scores of victims of Iroquois theatre fire are carried to their last resting places.

Government replies to many nations for their messages of condolence on the Iroquois horror, expressing its thanks.

Flame is applied to the asbestos curtains in New York theatres as a test, and all play-houses where the drops are not fireproof will be closed. Other cities begin inquiries as to safety provisions.

Four Milwaukee theatres are closed when investigation discloses that the "fire" curtains are made of canvas.

New Year's day given over to burial of the dead, more than one hundred funerals taking place. The customary celebrations all given up.

Police arrest five persons connected with the Iroquois theatre, in addition to the thirteen taken on Thursday, including the man who handled the spot light which caused the fire.

Captain Frederick Pabst, noted among the brewers of the United States, dies at his home in Milwaukee.

Office of the mayor of New York City is formally turned over to George B. McClellan by Seth Low. Police Commissioner McAdoo declares for a merit system for the police.

Investigation of the affairs of the Bank of Staten Island at Stapleton, N. J., shows that $150,000 in bonds are missing. This is believed to account for the suicide of Otto Ahlmann, owner of the bank.

"Gold" and "silver" partisans of Nebraska meet in a Democratic love feast in Omaha. Bryan is discussed and the campaign issues are outlined by the speakers.

Dun's weekly review of trade says that business men express confidence in the future, especially South and West.

Secretary Wilson says there can be no panic while the farmers of the United States are making money as now.

Carroll D. Wright, United States commissioner of labor, declares the labor situation of the country is the most hopeful in industrial history and that there are no strikes in sight for the new year.

Dr. John Alexander Dowie departs from Zion City on his world trip, which is expected to take six months. He is accompanied to the station by thousands.

Imperial palace at Pekin a royal prison during the boxer siege of 1900. Dowager and emperor practically captives in the hands of Prince Tuan, who aspired to place son on the throne and become dictator of China.

Europe gives up all hope of averting war between Russia and Japan; ominous dread in London that other powers may be involved.

Automobile railless train of five cars successfully tested in Paris in presence of president and many officials.

Officials at Ottawa deny that Canada is negotiating for the purchase of Greenland, but are anxious for England to acquire the territory.

Entente cordiale between England and France threatened by a trivial dispute over purchase of an automobile.

Fire destroys rectory of the famous "Little Church Around the Corner," New York. The Rev. Dr. Houghton nearly asphyxiated; rescued by firemen.

Annual report of national hospital for insane Indians at Canton, S. D., shows gain in Indian insanity, due to domestic troubles.

Interstate commerce commission books being investigated by experts because of rumors of financial irregularities.

Steel trust has cut the wages of thousands of employes throughout the country. Cotton operatives suffer reductions.

Pope announces that in future he will nominate the American bishops, taking this power from the propaganda. This action is caused by a recent dispute.

Mary Anderson, at her recent appearance for charity in London, declares she will never return to the stage.

King Edward's marked preference for American women is shown by the make-up of the house party at Chatsworth, where four out of eleven are from the United States.

No loss of life to patrons of licensed theatres has been recorded in London since 1858. The regulations are very strict including automatic exit doors and fireproof scenery.

Italian police break up a secret organization which has for its purpose the commission of all sorts of crime. Schools for using the knife and for the training of pickpockets are found.

Preparations are made for transporting United States troops to the isthmus if such action becomes necessary.

Horace G. Burt unexpectedly resigns the presidency of the Union Pacific railroad, and will take an extended tour around the world. He probably will be succeeded by E. H. Harriman.

New air line from St. Louis to the City of Mexico will, it is said, be built in the near future.

GEN. MILES' VIEW.

St. Louis, Mo., Jan. 1.—Lieut. General Nelson A. Miles, U. S. A., retired, who stopped here en route east, said in an interview:

"If war is declared between Russia and Japan it will probably involve all the nations of Europe."

Asked if he meant that all the nations in Europe would come to the aid of either Russia or Japan he said:

"Yes; they would become involved in that way."

He declined to say whether he thought this country would become involved in not. Gen. Miles stated that he had been in both Russia and Japan in the past few years and was familiar with the armies of both countries.

"Both are in fine and effective condition for war," he said, "but I will not say what I think of their relative strength and condition. The war will be decidedly military, as well as naval, and in my opinion there will be battles on land of considerable magnitude."

Good Bread

If you want to learn how to make good bread, or wish to improve your method of making bread, send for our six recipes for making bread and rolls. We send them FREE to every one asking for them.

THE BLADE, Toledo, O.

The New Improved

Blade Rotary Washing Machine

Ball Bearings

Our Improved Blade Rotary Washer is the best article of the kind ever placed on the market. The tub is constructed of the best quality red Louisiana Cypress, arranged for large sized clothes wringer, cover opening arranged so it cannot bind, swell or stick, and has universal ball bages and ball bearings. The oscilating movement is the easiest working gearing ye devised for working a washing machine. This machine can be attached to water or electric motor or operated by turning the large balance wheel by hand continuously in one direction. Can be operated while seated on a chair and entirely eliminates the stooping or strain on the back as in the old style washing machine.

The regular price of this machine is $7.00. We offer it and the Weekly Blade one year for only..... $5.00

The machine is shipped by freight. The purchaser pays the freight on receipt of the goods.

SILVER-PLATED TABLEWARE

We offer our readers, this season, the Rogers Bros.' very handsome Carlton pattern of spoons. These goods are plated with pure silver on nickel silver base, and are fully guaranteed by the manufacturers.

The knives are first coated with copper, then heavily plated with nickel and afterwards with silver. The nickel plate not only doubles the durability of the goods, but, being nearly impervious to moisture, renders knives so plated less liable to rust than those plated in the ordinary way. Prices:

½ doz. Teaspoons.... .... 85c
½ doz. Dessert Spoons $1.50
½ doz. Table Spoons 1.60
½ doz. Knives and Forks.... 3.75

All goods are sent by open mail or express, all charges prepaid by us. If you desire package registered, send 8c extra. A charge of 2c per letter is made for engraving.

Address all orders to

THE BLADE, Toledo, O.

Waltham and Elgin Watches

We now make the most remarkable offers in the history of the watch business—WALTHAM and ELGIN watches only, regular 18 size and 6 size, in cases of the highest grade. Our gold cases are made of solid gold in two thick plates, reinforced with a sheet of fine composition metal. If properly used the 25-year cases will last a lifetime. Every watch contains Breguet hairspring, quick train, compensation balance safety pinion, stem winding and setting apparatus of the latest design, and all the greatest improvements known to modern expert watchmakers. WALTHAM and ELGIN watches don't wear out. They are all good. Of course, full (15) jeweled works in 25-year cases are better than 7 jeweled works in 20-year cases, but all are fully guaranteed. Why not have correct time? You can have it if you are fortunate enough to get one of our watches. These offers are not for the general public, but any subscriber may buy all he wishes at these prices, which are far lower than dealers' prices for watches not so good. Our men's watches are suitable for boys and our ladies' watches for girls.

The cases are plain or engine-turned. Engraved cases are extra, as per rates quoted in our list.

MEN'S GOLD WATCHES.

Our prices include free delivery, in good running order.

No. 71—7-jeweled works, 25-year hunting case $14.30
Extra for engraved case.....$1.00
No. 72—7-jeweled works, 25-year open-face case 11.65
Extra for engraved case.....80 cents
No. 73—15-jeweled works, 25-year hunting case 15.90
Extra for engraved case.....$1.00
No. 74—15-jeweled works, 25-year open-face case 13.25
Extra for engraved case.....80 cents
No. 75—7-jeweled works, 20-year hunting case 12.20
No. 76—7-jeweled works, 20-year open-face case 9.75
No. 77—15-jeweled works, 20-year hunting case 13.75
No. 78—15-jeweled works, 20-year open-face case 11.30

MEN'S NICKEL SILVER WATCHES.

No. 79—7-jeweled works, nickel silver, open-face case 5.50
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LADIES' GOLD WATCHES.

No. 81—7-jeweled works, 25-year hunting case 12.15
Extra for engraved case.....80 cents
No. 82—15-jeweled works, 25-year hunting case 14.00
Extra for engraved case.....80 cents
No. 83—7-jeweled works, 20-year hunting case 11.35
No. 84—15-jeweled works, 20-year hunting case 13.20

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Cut Paper Patterns.

These patterns will be mailed to any address at only 10 cents each. In ordering, address your letter, "Pattern Department, The Blade, Toledo, Ohio." Inclose 10 cents in silver for each pattern ordered. Do not send stamps if you can obtain other funds. Write very plainly the NUMBER and the NAME of each pattern, as it appears under the cut, and also the BUST MEASURE you wish.

Misses' Shirt Waist, Fancy Yoke, No. 9204.

Stylish shirt waists for winter wear are made of two fabrics; in different shades of the same color rather than strong contrasts. The illustration shows a smart effect produced in pale blue ladies' cloth, trimmed with velvet in two tones of blue.

The foundation is a glove-fitted featherbone lining that crosses in the center front. This lining may be omitted and

9204—Misses' Shirt Waist with Fancy Yoke.
12, 14 and 16 years.

the waist adjusted with shoulder and underarm seams.

The back is plain from neck to belt. The waist closes with large turquoise buttons and buttonholes worked through a broad center box plait. Two backward-turning tucks on the shoulders are stitched down part way, and provide becoming fulness over the bust; this blouses slightly at the belt.

A drop yoke is included in the neck seam with the collar. It has two pointed tabs back and front, and one on each shoulder; the points being fastened with buttons and edged with long silk fringe. The collar is provided with tiny tabs to match those on the yoke.

One-piece bishop sleeves fit the arm closely from shoulder to elbow. They are very wide at the wrist, where the fulness is arranged on fancy cuffs over which they droop well at the back.

Waists in this style are made of flannel, serge, cashmere, challie or velveteen and when they are not trimmed with another material the yoke and collar are finished with braid or machine stitching.

To make the shirt waist for a miss of fourteen years will require two yards of material, thirty-six inches wide, with three-quarters of a yard of trimming. The pattern, No. 9204, is cut in sizes for misses of 12, 14 and 16 years.

Seven-Gored Skirt--Round Length--No. 9195.

For long walks and shopping trips the round skirt is enjoying an extended vogue. Many women who knew no half measures and wore either long-train skirts or ankle-length models are gradually adopting the round lengths, because they are far more graceful.

The illustration shows a smart skirt of light gray, doubleface cloth. It is shaped with seven well-proportioned gores fitted smoothly around the waist and hips without darts.

A close adjustment is maintained from belt to knee, but below that point each gore flares slightly toward the hem, where the skirt is finished with several rows of machine stitching. The closing

9195—Ladies' Seven Gored Skirt (Round Length).
22, 24, 26, 28, 30 and 32 inch waist.

may be made invisibly at the center back seam or a placket arranged under the trimming at the back.

The fancy lapels are included in the seams and belt, but not fastened on the edges to the gores. They are trimmed with round gun-metal buttons and stitched all around.

Skirts in this style are made of broadcloth, zibeline, covert, camel's hair, homespun or heavy skirting. Some are lined with silk, others mounted on the same belt with a silk "drop" skirt. The trimming may be of contrasting material or heavily-braided if preferred.

To make the skirt in the medium size will require four and one-half yards of material forty-four inches wide. The pattern, No. 9195, is cut in sizes for a 22, 24, 26, 28, 30 and 32-inch waist measure.

BE SURE to give both the number and the name of the pattern, and the bust measure also.

Boys' Double-Breasted Russian Suit, No. 9197.

Brown is one of the most fashionable colors this season. It is shown here in a light cinnamon shade trimmed with biscuit cloth and dark brown braids.

The trousers are shaped with regulation inside and outside seams and fitted around the waist with small darts. They are attached to the upper edge of an one-piece body lining that fastens at the center back. This is faced with cloth to form a shield completed by a narrow neckband. The fulness at the knee is drawn in closely by means of an elastic passed through a casing near the edge.

The coat is adjusted with shoulder and underarm seams, fits well across the back and chest, but has considerable width at the hem. It closes in double-breasted style with silk cords and frogs.

A broad brown velvet belt draws the

9197—Boy's Double-Breasted Russian Suit
2, 4, 6 and 8 years.

coat in closely at the waist and has a fashionable dip in front. The neck is finished with a cloth sailor-collar that is square in the back and extends over the sleeves in a becoming manner. It is trimmed with three rows of narrow brown velvet ribbon.

The sleeves have comfortable fulness on the shoulders and are fitted with tucks at the hand. The tucks are stitched up part way to form cuffs. Suits in this mode are made of serge, cheviot flannel and covert and trimmed with contrasting material, or they may be made of one fabric and the trimming portion braided.

To make a suit for a boy of six years will require two and one-quarter yards of material 36 inches wide with three-quarter yard for trimming and one-half yard of lining for waist. The pattern, No. 9197, is cut in sizes for boys of 2, 4, 6 and 8 years.

Girls' Dress, No. 9208.

Red and black is a warm-looking combination for winter wear and one usually favored by children. The dress shown here is made of bright red wool crepe, with black velvet and white lace for trimming.

The foundation is a fitted body lining that closes in the center back and is faced with cloth to a round yoke depth. The back is plain across the shoulders and blouses well all around. The closing is made with small garnet buttons.

Three backward turning tucks extend from yoke to belt in front. The narrow front plait is trimmed with small buttons. A plain lace collar completes the neck.

A fancy bertha collar finishes the yoke from the second plait to the center back. It is of lace, edged with velvet and gives a drooping effect to the shoulders

One-piece bishop sleeves fit the arms closely from armhole to elbow and are very wide at the wrist, where the fulness is gathered and arranged on lace bands.

The skirt has a narrow panel front and full sides that reach to center back. It is attached to the body portion and finished with a band of velvet at the hem. The yoke, plait and front gore of the

9208—Girl's Dress.
6, 8, 10 and 12 years.

skirt are trimmed with black French knots.

Dresses in this style are made of cashmere, serge, flannel, cheviot or covert and trimmed lace velvet, silk or fancy braid.

To make the dress for a girl of eight years will require three yards of material, 40 inches wide, with one-half yard of lace. The pattern, No. 9208, is cut in sizes for girls of 6, 8, 10 and 12 years.

Ladies' Fancy Shirt Waist, No. 9186

"Golf" green cheviot is used for this smart shirt waist with piping of bright red velvet and tiny gilt buttons for trimming.

The waist is made over a glove-fitted, featherboned lining that closes in the front. Two tucks on each side of the center back are stitched flatly from neck to belt, tapering toward the waist line.

9186—Ladies' Fancy Shirt Waist.
32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inch bust.

Smooth adjustment is maintained under the arms.

Three tucks in the full fronts are stitched down part way and provide fulness over the bust. The waist blouses slightly over a narrow red velvet belt. A deep, pointed yoke is heavily machine stitched and edged with red.

The waist closes invisibly in the center front under a broad box plait that is trimmed with velvet and small buttons. The collar is stitched and completed with a tiny protector.

One-piece bishop sleeves have double box plaits on top that are extended over the shoulders and included in the neck seam. These plaits give a very drooping effect that is not always becoming. If it is desired to have the sleeve terminated at the shoulder it may be made in this manner, the pattern providing the proper shaping.

The box plaits are stitched down, as far as the elbow, the fulness below forming wide puffs that are arranged on deep cuffs.

Shirt waists in this style are made of flannel, cashmere, fleeced madras or cheviot, velvet and corduroy. They require little trimming, fancy buttons being quite conspicuous on such models.

To make the waist in the medium size will require two and one-half yards of material forty-four inches wide. The pattern, No. 9186, is cut in sizes for a 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40-inch bust measure.

Address as follows, including the price of the pattern ordered:

PATTERN DEPARTMENT,
THE BLADE, TOLEDO OHIO.

MR. PAYNE'S RECOMMENDATIONS

Washington, Jan. 1.—Postmaster General Payne in his annual report will call the attention of congress to the necessity of additional postoffice buildings in New York city and for an additional building in this city to quarter branches of the postoffice department. Mr. Payne will call attention to the recommendations made by the commission consisting of himself, the attorney general and the secretary of treasury last autumn when the acceptance of the Pennsylvania road of a site on its new terminal station and the erection of a postoffice building on a site directly over the underground system of tracks of the New York Central, to take the place of the present postoffice, Station H, near the Grand Central station, were urged. Congress failed to act on the bills introduced for this purpose.

The postmaster general will point to the great congestion in the mail service in New York and urge legislation carrying into effect the commission's recommendations. The department in Washington also is badly crowded and the postmaster general will urge congress to authorize the purchase of the block immediately south of the present postoffice department building to accommodate those portions of the department which now occupy private buildings at high rentals.

This Will Interest Many.

F. W. Parkhurst, the Boston publisher, says that if any one afflicted with rheumatism in any form, or neuralgia, will send their address to him, at 804-26 Winthrop Bldg., Boston, Mass., he will direct them to a perfect cure. He has nothing to sell or give; only tells you how he was cured after years of search for relief. Hundreds have tested it with success.

DEPEW'S BROTHER DEAD.

Detroit, Jan. 4.—Lawrence Depew, brother of United States Senator Chauncey M. Depew, of New York, and one of the most prominent citizens of Detroit, fell dead at the threshold of his home, 65 Forest avenue, East, yesterday. Death was ascribed to heart disease. Although Mr. Depew had been ailing for more than a year, it had not been considered that he was in any immediate danger.

Mr. Depew bore a striking personal resemblance to Senator Depew. Aside from his widow, he is survived by two daughters and one son.

Makes "Old Men" Boys Again

Free receipt that restores youthful vitality to men of all ages can now be had of the discoverer without cost---Cures nervous debility, prostatic trouble, emissions, etc., and restores normal nerve-power almost instantly.

FULL DIRECTIONS FOR HOME CURE.

Now that they have found a new ingredient that makes cures 50 per cent quicker that formerly and practically gives the desired effect over night, the Dr. Knapp

Medical Co., of Detroit, the world's greatest authorities on the cure of vital weakness, want every weak man to write them for the free receipt that does this wonderful good, and full directions how to cure yourself privately at home. There is no man so old that this receipt will not make him feel like a youngster again, and middle-aged men who think their best days are gone will have a happy surprise in store for them. It is a blessing, indeed, to any man who is not as good as he used to be, and whether you are in the 20s or in the 60's the effect will be equally satisfactory and quick.

From what those who have used it say, a man can expect the change in less than 24 hours, and a permanent cure in a short time. It cures nervous debility, premature discharge, undeveloped organs, emissions, varicocele, stricture, lack of power, exhaustion, etc., and cures it permanently, to stay cured. It acts directly on the muscular tissue, mucous membranes, nerves and glands, and the effect is a comforting one indeed.

If you can make use of a receipt that brings about such happy results, send your name and address today to the Dr. Knapp Medical Co., 976 Hull Building, Detroit, Mich., and it will be sent you by return mail, together with directions for a private home cure and a descriptive booklet on your disease, all in an unmarked package.

Let there be no delay.

IROQUOIS THEATRE, CHICAGO, BURNS.

List of Dead is 588---Nearly All Perished Within Five Minutes.

Chicago, Dec. 31.—The Iroquois theatre was the newest, the largest, and, as far as human power could make it, the safest theatre in Chicago. Yet when a fire came, and the attendant panic it became a death trap. A few of the hundreds of victims were burned to death by fire, many were suffocated by gas, and scores were trampled to death in the panic that followed the mad plunge of the frightened audience for the exits.

The fire broke out during the second act of the play Mr. Blue Beard, which was the first dramatic production produced in the theatre since its erection. The company, which was very large, escaped to the street in safety, nearly all of them, however being compelled to flee into the snowy streets with no clothing but their stage costumes.

The accounts of the origin of the fire are conflicting, and none of them certain, but the best reason given is that an electric wire near the lower part of a piece of drop scenery, suddenly broke and was grounded. The fire spread rapidly toward the front of the stage, causing the members of the chorus, who were then engaged in the performance, to flee to the wings with screams of terror. The fire in itself up to this time was not serious, and probably could have been checked had not the asbestos curtain failed to work. As soon as the fire was discovered, Eddie Foy, the chief comedian of the company, shouted to lower the curtain and this was immediately done. It descended about half way, and then stuck. The fire thus was given practically a flue through which a strong draft was setting, aided by the doors, which had been thrown open in the front of the theatre.

With a roar and a bound, the flames shot through the opening over the heads of the people on the first floor, and, reaching clear up to those in the first balcony, caught them and burned them to death where they sat.

Immediately following this rush of flames there came an explosion which lifted the entire roof off the theatre from its walls, shattering the great skylight into fragments. As soon as the flames first appeared beyond the curtain a man in the rear of the hall shouted "Fire!" "Fire!" and the entire audience rose as one person and made for the doors.

Suffocated as They Sat.

It was the opinion of the firemen that the people had been suffocated at once by the flow of gas which came from behind the asbestos curtain.

About 1,300 people were in the theatre. Three hundred of these were on the rst floor, the balance being in the two upper balconies and in the hallways back of them.

The theatre was modeled after the Opera Comique in Paris, and from the rear of each balcony there are three doors leading out to pasageways toward the front of the theatre. Two of these doorways are at the end of the balcony and one being in the centre. The audience in its rush for the outer air seems to have, for the greater part, chosen to flee to the left entrance and to attempt to make its way down the eastern stairway leading into the lobby of the theatre. Outside of the people burned and suffocated by gas, it was in these two doorways on the first and second balconies that the greatest loss of life occurred. When the firemen entered the building the dead were found stretched in a pile reaching from the head of the stairway at least eight feet from the door back to a point about five feet in rear of the door. This mass of dead bodies in the centre of the doorway reached to within two feet of the top of the passageway.

Women and Children in Fight for Life

All the corpses at this point were women and children. The fight for life which must have taken place at these two points, is something that is simply beyond human power adequately to describe. Only a faint idea of its horror could be derived from the aspect of the bodies as they lay. Women on top of these masses of dead had been overtaken by death as they were crawling on their hands and knees over the bodies of those who had died before. Others lay with arms stretched out in the direction toward which lay life and safety, holding in their hands fragments of garments not their own, they were evidently torn from the clothing of others whom they had endeavored to pull down and trample under foot as they fought for their own lives. As the police removed layer after layer of dead in these doorways, the sight became too much even for police and firemen hardened as they are to such scenes, to endure. The bodies were in such an inextricable mass, and so tightly were they jammed between the sides of the doors and walls that it was impossible to lift them one by one and carry them out. The only possible thing to do was to seize a limb or some other portion of the body and pull with main strength.

Rescuers Sobbed as They Worked.

Men worked at the task with tears running down their cheeks and the sobs of the rescuers could be heard even in the hall below where this awful scene was being enacted. A number of the men were compelled to abandon their task and give it over to others whose nerves had not as yet been shaken by the awful experience. As one by one the bodies were dragged out of the water-soaked, blackened mass of corpses, the spectacle became more and more heartrending. There were women whose clothing was torn completely from their bodies above the waist whose bosoms had been trampled into a pulp and whose faces were marred beyond all power of identification. Bodies lay in the first and second balconies in great numbers. In some places they were piled up in the aisles three and four deep, where one had fallen and others tripped over the prostrate forms, and all had died where they lay, evidently suffocated by the gas. Others were bent over backs of seats where they had been thrown by the rush of the people for the doors and killed with hardly a chance to rise from their seats. One man was found with his back bent nearly double, his spinal column having been fractured as he was thrown backward. A woman was found cut nearly in half by the back of the seat she having been forced over it face downward.

In the aisles nearest to the doors the scenes were harrowing in the extreme. Bodies lay in every conceivable attitude, half naked, the look on their faces revealing some portion of the agony which must have produced their death. There were scores and scores of people whose entire face had been trampled completely off by the heels of those who rushed over them and in one aisle the body of a man was found with not a vestige of clothing, flesh or bone remaining above his waist line. The entire upper portion of his body had been cut into mincemeat and carried away by the feet of those who trampled him; a search was carefully made with a hope of finding his head, but it could not be discovered, and all that will ever tell his friends who he was is the color and appearance of the clothing on the lower limbs, and this is in such a condition as to be hardly recognizable.

The theatre had been constructed but a short time and all its equipment was not yet in place. This was unfortunately the case with a fire escape in the rear of the building. The small iron balconies to which the iron ladder was to be attached were up, but the ladder had not yet been constructed. When the panic was at its height a great number of women ran for these fire escapes only to find as they emerged from the doorway upon the little iron platform, that they were thirty or fifty feet from the ground, a fire behind and no method of escape in front. Those who reached the platform first endeavored to hold their footing and to keep back the crowd that pressed upon them from the rear.

The effort was utterly useless and in a few moments the iron ledges were jammed with crowds of women who screamed, fought and tore at each other like maniacs. This lasted but a brief interval and the rush from the interior of the building became so violent that many of them were crowded off and fell to the granite paved alley below. Others leaped from the platform, fracturing legs and arms, and two were picked up at this point with fractured skulls, having been killed instantly. George H. Elliott, secretary of the Ogden Gas company, was in a building directly opposite from the theatre across this alley, and noticing smoke went down to ascertain its cause. When he reached the street the women were already dropping into the alley, and Elliott immediately rushed for a ladder in the effort to save as many as possible. No ladder was available and the only method of assistance they were able to devise was to hurriedly lash some planks together and throw them across to the affrighted women on the platforms with instructions to place the end firmly on the iron framework. Before this could be done a fearful loss of time ensued, the women were being pushed every instant into the alley and by the time the bridge was constructed but few remained to take advantage of it. However, about two dozen, it is believed, made their way across this narrow causeway.

Eddie Foy Directed Escape.

The members of the theatrical company, being on the first floor, had comparatively little difficulty in reaching the street, although their situation was for a moment highly critical because of the speed with which the flames swept through the mass of scenery in the flies and on the stage.

Eddie Foy, principal comedian in the play, was one of the last to escape, by getting out through a rear door after assisting the women members of the company to safety. He went into the Sherman house in his stage costume, and, with his face covered with grease paint, in order to secure surgical attendance for some burns which he had sustained. In describing the commencement of the fire Foy attributed the extent of the catastrophe to the failure of the fireproof curtain to work properly. Because of this, he said, the flames readily obtained access to the main part of the theatre by the draft, which carried with it gas as well as fire, swept up to the two balconies where the loss of life was greatest.

"The fire began in the middle of the second act," said Mr. Foy. "An electric wire broke, was grounded, and from this the flames were started in the rear of the stage. The stage is unusually wide and there was so great a draft the flames spread rapidly. They soon had attacked all the scenery in the rear of the house. I never believed it possible for fire to spread so quickly. When it first started I went to the footlights, and, to prevent alarming the audience, said that there was a slight blaze, and that it would be better for all to leave quietly.

Curtain Failed to Work.

"Then I stepped back and called for the asbestos curtain to be lowered. This, when about half way down, refused to go farther and thus an additional draft was created. This swept the flames out into the auditorium and I knew that the theatre was doomed. I hurried back to the stage and aided in getting the women members of the company into the alley. Some of them were in their dressing rooms and were almost overcome by smoke before they could get down to the stage and to the doors. The simple fact that the curtain did not descend entirely was what saved the lives of the company, although it caused such a horrible catastrophe in the front of the house.

"After the curtain had refused to descend there came the explosion of the gas tanks and with the curtain down all the fire and gas would have been confined between the rear wall of the theatre and the fire proof curtain in front. Under these circumstances it would not have been possible for a single member of the company to escape alive unless he or she had been standing immediately in front of the door leading into the alley. As it was the draft carried all the gas and fire out beneath the curtain and the company was saved, although their salvation was the death of so many poor people in front."

Chicago Frenzied With Grief.

Rarely in the history of Chicago has its people been so stirred as by the calamity. It is next to the Chicago fire, the greatest catastrophe that has ever occurred here, and the speed with which their own fire was extinguished for a brief period to appall the business section of the city. The news spread with great rapidity and in a short time hundreds of men, women and children were rushing toward the theatre. The building in which the calamity occurred stood midway between State and Dearborn streets on the north side of Randolph street. Although every available policeman within call of the department was immediately hurried to the spot and the men placed in lines at the end of the block, allowing nobody to enter Randolph street from either Dearborn or State, it was found for a time almost impossible to hold back the frenzied crowd that pressed forward, many of them having friends or relatives in the theatre and anxious to learn something of them. The conduct of the police was beyond all praise. The officers held their ground firmly, and gently pushed back all those who sought to gain entrance to the theatre, although in some instances frantic men, anxious to look for their loved ones, actually beat the officers with their fists in their rage at being prevented.

"Don't Walk on Their Faces".

In spite of the efforts of the police, however, a large number of people succeeded in breaking through their lines and entering the theatre, and in many cases did heroic work in rescuing the injured and carrying out the dead. Among those was former Alderman William H. Thompson, who unaided carried to the street the bodies of eight women. The first newspaper men upon the ground also carried out many of the dead and injured. The building was so full of smoke when the firemen first arrived that the full extent of the catastrophe was not immediately grasped until a fireman and a newspaper man crawled up the stairway leading to the balcony, holding handkerchiefs over their mouths to avoid suffocation. As they reached the doorway the fireman, whose vision was better trained in such emergencies, seized his companion by the arm exclaiming "Good God, man, don't walk on their faces!"

The two men tried vainly to get through the door which was jammed with dead women piled higher than either of their heads. All the lights in the theatre were necessarily out and the only illumination came through the cloud of smoke that hung between the interior of the theatre and the street. The two men immediately hurried to the floor below and informed Chief Musham, of the fire department, that the dead bodies were piled high in the balcony and prompt assistance must be rendered if any of them were to be saved. The chief at once called upon all of his men in the vicinity to abandon work on the fire and come at once to the rescue.

Used Lanterns in Rescue Work.

The building was so dark and the smoke so thick that it was found impossible to accomplish anything until lights had been secured. Word was sent to the Orr & Lockett Hardware company, two doors east of the theatre, and that firm at once placed its entire stock of lanterns at the service of the department. Over 200 lights were quickly carried into the building and the work of rescue commenced. So rapidly were the bodies brought down that for over an hour there were two streams of men passing in and out of the doorway, the one carrying bodies, the other composed of men returning to get more. They were carried into Thompson's restaurant, which adjons the theatre on the east, where all the available space was given by the proprietor. The dead and wounded were placed upon chairs, tables and counters, one woman even being placed for lack of a better spot on top of a cigar case. Because of the tremendous throng which surrounded the block in which the theatre building stood, it was not possible for the police to carry the dead and wounded any distance and they were compelled to wait for ambulances at the theatre.

Great Pile of Dead Bodies.

Although all the patrol wagons and every ambulance owned by the city was pressed into service, they were utterly inadequate to carry away the dead, and in a short time there was a line of corpses fifty feet long piled two and three high on the sidewalk in front of the theatre. It was found necessary in order to convey the bodies rapidly to the morgue, and to the various undertaking establishments, to impress trucks into service, and in these, upon costly blankets furnished by the dry goods stores in the vicinity and covered with the same material, the dead were hauled away practically like so much cord wood. The merchants in the vicinity of the theatre rose to the emergency in splendid fashion, Marshall Field & Co., Mandel Bros., Schlesinger, and Meyer, Carson, Pirie, Scott & Co., and other large dry goods stores, sent wagon load after wagon load of blankets, rolls of linen and packages of cotton to be used in binding up the wounds of the injured and to cover the dead. The drug stores furnished their stock to anybody that asked for it in the name of the people hurt in the fire. Doctors and trained nurses were on the ground by the score within half an hour after the extent of the calamity was known, and every wounded person who was carried from the building received prompt medical aid.

A number of doctors waited at the entrance to the theatre with stethoscopes in hand, and as soon as a body which looked as though it might possess life was carried out it was at once examined, and if dead, placed on the pile lying on the sidewalk. The others were at once placed in ambulances and whirled away to hospitals or to the offices of physicians in the immediate neighborhood.

HORRIFYING FIRE SCENES

Awful Events When Great Audience Was Stampeded.

Waiters and cooks from Thompson's restaurant, which adjoins the theatre on the east, rescued fifteen people by raising a ladder from the roof of a shed to a window in the rear of the building around which a mass of screaming women and children were congregated.

C. Little, the head cook, mounted to the top of the ladder and told them to jump into his arms. Fifteen women and children did this, and were passed by Little down to other men on the ladder below him. One woman attempted to jump into his arms before he was ready to take hold of her, and she fell to the alley, fracturing her skull, dying immediately.

D. A. Stratton, of Alpena, Mich., was in the theatre with his 15-year old daughter, Mattie, and his niece, Louise Bushway, of Chicago. In the rush for the door he became separated from both girls, and attempted to fight his way back in order to find them, but was buffeted aside by the rush of the maddened people. He was knocked down, trampled on, and his head cut in a dozen places. Not for an hour after being carried out did he learn that the two children had also escaped, both of them being burned badly, his daughter receiving inhaled flame and being unable to speak.

Columbus Girl Theatre Party Escaped

One of the marvellous escapes was that made by the members of a theatre party given by Miss Charlotte E. Plamondon, of Chicago. The party was made up of a number of prominent society people of this city. Miss Elsie Elmore, of Astoria, Ore.; Miss Mary Peters, of Columbus, O., and Miss Josephine Eddy, of Evanston, Ill. Miss Plamondon was the first of her party to notice the fire which crept along the top of the drop curtain. She called the attention of other members of the party to the blaze and they all watched it. Miss Plamondon said: "I could see little girls and boys in the orchestra chairs pointing upward to the slowly moving line of flame. One of the stage hands wearing overalls appeared before the footlights and requested the audience to keep their seats as there was no danger. Eddie Foy then hurried to the front of the stage and commanded the people to remain calm, saying that if they would keep their seats the danger would be averted. The curtain, however, still burned, pieces of the smouldering cloth falling into the orchestra pit. An effort was made by the stage hands to arrange the curtain so that the blazing fragments would not drop into the pit. I looked over the faces of the audience and remarked how many children were present. I could see their faces filled with interest and their eyes wide open, as they watched the burning curtain. Just then the people in the balcony rose to their feet and crowded forward to obtain a better view of the fire. Eddy Foy rushed to the center of the stage again and waved his arms in a gesture meaning for the people to be seated. At that instant a woman in the rear of the place screamed "Fire!" and the entire audience of women and children rose to their feet filled with uncontrollable terror. In another instant there was a confused roar made by a thousand people as they rushed madly from the impending danger.

Chorus Girls Collapsed.

"On the stage the chorus girls who had aroused my admiration because of their exhibition of presence of mind, turned to flee, but many of them were overcome before they could take a step. Several of them fell to the floor and I saw the men in the cast, and the stage hands, carrying them off the stage. Miss Elsie Elmore was the first to leave our box. The upholstering on the railing was then on fire and we were compelled to brush fragments of the burning curtain from our clothing in order to prevent them catching fire. Then there came a great roar and a great burst of air and flames shot over the parquet of the theatre and it seemed to me that they must reach the very front walls of the building.

Men Fought Women to Escape.

"There were but few men in the audience, but I saw several of them pulling and pushing women and children aside as they fought like maniacs to reach the exits. I saw a number of little children trampled under foot, and none of them arose again. In the balcony the scene was beyond my power to describe. There was a big black crush of human beings, each one apparently fighting everybody else. The balcony was so steep that many fell before they had left the first four rows of seats. The exits to the fire escapes were choked and those in the rear rushed with all the strength they possessed upon those who were nearer the doorway.

"It was almost incredible, the speed with which the flames ran through the scenery, and although I was but a second after Miss Elmore in jumping over the railing of our box to the aisle in front, the stage was a mass of flames. As I started up the aisle a man rushed into me and knocked me down. I was so terror-stricken that I grew weak and sank into one of the orchestra chairs, and after that I hardly remember anything. In some way I reached the main entrance where men were kicking against the doors and shattering the glass and panels in their attempt to afford a larger space for the exit of the people.

Walked Over Bodies to Safety.

"Many fell as they reached the doors where a few steps more would have carried them to fresh air and safety. As I look at it now I must have been walking on prostrate bodies as I struggled through the opening. All of our party escaped in about the same manner as I did, but all of them suffered so terribly in the manner of clothing that the first thing they did was to rush to the stores to buy wraps to cover them."

William R. Heyer, an usher in the first balcony, said:

"My balcony was crowded and there were a number of people standing when the fire broke out. It all came so sudden that I barely had time to open the fire exits before the auditorium was in flames. I tried to quiet the crowd but it was no use. The women screamed and the men fought to get to the doors, trampling on women and children. If they would have been quiet everybody could have got out of my balcony."

Fiend Killed a Little Boy.

Mrs. F. A. Morgan, of Chicago was in the theatre with her sister, Miss Marcella Warren, of Detroit, and her son, five years old. The party was in the first balcony and when the first sparks were seen, arose to depart. All of them reached the first floor when the panic came and the rush for the doors commenced. Although they hastened as rapidly as possible, they were knocked down and sustained several bruises. A man seized a little boy by the head in attempting to throw him from his path and the little boy's scalp was practically torn from his head.

Mrs. William Mueller, of Chicago, was in the theatre with her two children, five and seven years old. When the fire appeared she left her seat on the first floor and grasping the two little girls by the hands started for the door. She had just reached the entrance when the crowd rushed upon her, bore her down and trampled her into unconsciousness. She knew nothing more until she was revived in the Samaritan hospital, when she at once begged for her children. While she was asking for them, one of them was brought to the hospital seriously burned. The other escaped uninjured.

Many Killed by Falling.

R. W. Widson, who assisted in taking the injured from the theatre to the hospital, said that many of the deaths were caused by falling from the balcony steps in the efforts of the crowd to reach the exit.

"The first evidence of the fire," he said, "was a thin column of smoke which floated from the stage. This was followed by a sheet of flame which mounted to the ceiling and enveloped the hangings about the front of the stage. The people in the parquette started for the door in an orderly manner. The people on the stage, the ushers and a number of spectators arose to their feet and shouted for order, and did everything in their power to prevent a panic. Then somebody screamed and everybody apparently lost all control of themselves and ran for the doors. I was knocked down twice by men who seemed to have lost their minds. Many women and children were knocked down in this way who might have been saved had they not been pushed to one side by men who thought of nothing but themselves."

Herbert Cawthorn, a member of the caste, assisted many of the chorus girls from the stage exits in the panic. After being driven from the building he made two attempts to enter his dressing room, but both times was driven back by the firemen who feared he would be overcome by smoke. Mr. Cawthorn said:

Extinguisher Failed to Work.

"I was in a position to see the origin of the fire, and I feel positive that it was an electric calcium light that started the blaze. The calcium lights were being used to illuminate the stage in the latter part of the second act when the song 'In the Pale Moonlight' was being sung. I was standing behind a wing on the left side of the stage when my attention was attracted by a peculiar sputtering of one of the calciums. Above the stage, perhaps twelve feet higher than the top of the curtain exposed to the audience, was a swinging platform on which twelve calciums had flared up and the sparks ignited the lint on the curtain. Instantly I turned my attention toward the stage and I saw that the song was being carried out and that many of the actors and actresses had not yet discovered the blaze. Just then the fireman who is kept behind the scenes rushed up with some kind of a patent fire extinguisher. Instead of the stream from the apparatus striking the flames it went almost in the opposite direction. Up to this time the flames had not been in sight of the audience.

Flames Shot Out Quickly.

"While the stage fireman was working in an endeavor to use the chemicals, the flames suddenly swooped down and out. Eddy Foy shouted something about the asbestos curtain, and the fireman attempted to use it, and the stage hands ran to his assistance. The asbestos curtain refused to work, and then the stage hands and players began to hurry from the theatre. In my opinion, the stage fireman might have averted the whole affair if he had not become excited. The chorus girls and everybody else, to my mind, was less excited than he. There were at least 500 persons behind the scenes when the fire started. I assisted many of the chorus girls from the theatre, and some of them were only partially attired. One of the young women were naked from the waist up. They had absolutely no time to throw a stitch of clothes over their shoulders."

Escaped Through the Roof.

About a score of people in the second balcony were saved by firemen who took them through the roof and carried them down ladders in the rear of the building. Two bodies, tightly locked in each other's arms, young ladies, apparently about 25 years of age, were found in one end of the orchestra pit. They must have fallen there from the balcony above.

The body of a dark haired girl, apparently about 12 years of age was found impaled on the iron railing of the first balcony. She evidently had been thrown over from the second balcony above.

With all of its clothing torn from it but a pair of baby shoes the body of a child about one year old was found in a corner of the second balcony. It had evidently been knocked from its mother's arms and was trampled beyond recognition.

Brady s Story of Horror.

William A. Brady, the well-known New York theatrical manager, who was in the audience at the time the fire started, said:

"I had just got in from New York, and reached the theatre not more than fifteen minutes before the fire broke out. It was one of the biggest audiences that I ever saw and I was unable to secure a seat. I was standing near the door when, looking up, I saw that the calcium light apparatus was out of order. Some one came on the stage and assured the audience that there was no danger and for them to keep their seats. Then a ballet dancer came on and performed, but in another second the whole balcony seemed to be in flames. Every one down stairs rushed for the doors, and as far as I know no one in that part of the house was killed. It was upstairs where the smoke blown by the strong draft that came in through the skylights where death was dealt out to hundreds before they realized what had happened. Such a panic as followed the first cry of fire I have never seen in all my life. The stairways and exits became jammed with fighting humanity in a moment, and the shrieks and moans of the poor people cut off from all escape was the most awful thing imaginable.

Like Dante's Inferno.

"It can only be likened to Dante's Inferno. With two companions I tried to reach the balcony, but we were driven back by the suffocating smoke and were unable to accomplish anything until the firemen had extinguished the flames. Hundreds joined the rescuers and from one of the entrances to the balcony we removed one hundred and fifty bodies by actual count. They were jammed and twisted together in all shapes. Many of the women and children had been stripped almost naked in their mad efforts to escape from that living tom

The HOUSEHOLD And YOUNGFOLKS

EDITED BY EMILY S. BOUTON.

Keynotes of Harmony

Wednesday.

But often faltering feet
Come surest to the goal,
And they who walk in darkness meet
The sunrise of the soul.

Thursday.

Would'st be mean and small, and filled with
Freaks and pains and withering imperfections?
Then think and speak of like unsaintly things.

Friday.

Patience, my heart, I bid thee fail nor falter not,
Although the night is dark that has fallen to thy lot;
Thy peace will come, as surely comes the day,
If thou wilt let patience have its perfect way.

Saturday.

Though ev'ry wrong gives pain, or sighs, or tears,
These sins of ours are but of small account
If ev'ry day, and so through all the years,
We do of better deeds a vast amount.

Sunday.

Would'st thou now this Voice
That speaketh in Thee?
'Tis the voice of thine own soul
And speaketh only when the
Selfish self is still.

Monday.

Time turns our life's new page unstained,
Then cometh from the troubled past
A whispered "Courage!" Hope at last
Awakens in the soul a song
That drowns the sob of conscious wrong!

Tuesday.

Thankful for strength in strife,
For faith more steadfast than the stars above;
Thankful that life is life
And love is love.

Things Worth Thinking Of

Nineteenth Century Sunshine

Emily S. Bouton

According to a statement of a Washington paper, the National Tribune, the national body of the W. C. T. U. is liberally roasting President Roosevelt for "smoking cigarets and using intoxicating drinks." Inasmuch as it is generally understood that Mr. Roosevelt never smokes and is so temperate as to be often styled a "total abstainer," it looks very much as if that body of reformers is blundering, and blundering very seriously. It is hard to understand how a movement of such importance at this time could be inaugurated without absolute certainty as to its basis. That it has none seems quite certain.

While the W. C. T. U. is thus proceeding, the National Association of Liquor Dealers has raised $50,000 to defeat Mr. Roosevelt's candidacy because, according to their belief "he is the worst enemy liquor traffic has." Now don't the two make a pretty picture joining hands for the same purpose and yet violently opposed to each other? Here is a fine opportunity for the cartoonists to get in some good work.

Nobody, even his best friends will pretend that Theodore Roosevelt is perfect. Who is? He may make mistakes. Who does not? But he is the most courageous individual who has been in the Presidential chair since the time of Abraham Lincoln, and the country sorely needs today a man there of courage and resolution, with the will to do right—a man who can neither be bought nor bullied. And such an one is he, as everybody unprejudiced, knows.

It would be wise for the W. C. T. U. to take a season of meditation upon this matter. Sometimes reformers, in their enthusiasm, forget that there is anything to be done in the world except in their own field of effort. And when added to this, action is taken from a false basis, the injury, not only to their cause, but in other ways, is hard to measure.

Dark brown is the river,
Golden is the sand.
It flows along forever,
With trees on either hand.
Green leaves a-floating,
Castles of the foam,
Boats of mine a-boating—
Where will all come home?

On goes the river
And out past the mill,
Away down the valley,
Away down the hill.
Away down the river,
A hundred miles or more,
Other little children
Shall bring my boats ashore.

These beautiful lines by Robert Louis Stevenson were, without doubt, designed to convey the suggestion that whatever of good or ill is sent out upon the current of life will be seized and brought to shore—continuing the figure—somewhere and by somebody, however distant in time and space from the sender.

It is a truth, speaking now in plain language, that from apparent trifles, the smallest beginnings, have grown some of the most wonderful results. It is easy to recall many instances of this kind which proves that out of the small cometh the great.

Even when results may not be thus classed, however, they often reach proportions which may well encourage those who are sending out their little boats freighted with a present good-will purpose, though with little else beside.

From the magazine published by the Woman's Century club, which club is made up of the women and girls employed in the National Cash Register company, of Dayton, I learn that some of the excellent features of that factory grew out of the chance sight by Mr. Patterson, the president, of a girl heating her coffee upon a register for her lunch. Learning upon inquiry that this coffee had been made the day before, heated for breakfast and then again for the noonday meal, he resolved to take some money that he had arranged to devote to a personal pleasure and convenience, and supply hot coffee for the girls, for a week or two, to drink with their lunch.

Out of this seeming trifle grew all of the excellent arrangements for the health and comfort of the women-workers in this direction, and from this again came many other things which are provided for their physical and mental well being. And who shall measure the influence that a successful experiment, passed now wholly beyond that stage, will exert upon the condition of workers everywhere?

I have just been reading what is called A Lincoln Center number of Unity, the paper edited and published by Jenkins Lloyd Jones, of All Soul's church, Chicago. In it is told how this church of broad fellowship, the platform of which is open to all who desire to speak "in the interest of the highest things" for humanity's sake, sprung from a small beginning, and after years of earnest effort has acquired a power and a vigor that thrill with a new hope and purpose many other places beside Chicago.

One of the many dreams of the pastor for the usefulness of All Soul's church is now about to have its realization in the building of what is to be known as the Abraham Lincoln Centre. This will be the headquarters of all of the widespread activities of his people—activities that reach out far beyond what are usually considered to belong to a church. Its construction is of more than ordinary importance because it symbolizes freedom in religious thought and work. Mr. Jones has had the happiness of seeing his dreams come real, of bringing his own "boats ashore." And the best of all is that this growth, this development of good will be an inspiration to other workers everywhere, who are trying to

"Stand for the new Beatitude
Of man's eternal brotherhood."

Last week I spoke of Thomas Wentworth Higginson and the beauty and usefulness of his life, which has just rounded its eightieth year. My thought has been turned to him again by a graceful article from his pen in the current Atlantic, in which he draws attention to a characteristic of the majority of those people of whom we know much, and who largely occupied public attention in the second quarter of the last century. He is talking of what he calls The Sunny Side of Transcendental Days.

Speaking first of the chorus of affectionate praise which surrounded the celebration of Emerson's hundredth birthday, and of its unlikeness to the ever renewing tumult of discussion around the grave of Carlyle, he says: "It is clear that the whole atmosphere of Emerson's memory is that of sunshine, but it gradually appears, in tracing it farther that much of the traditional atmosphere extends—at least for those who lived through it and perhaps for their children also—over the whole intellectual period of which Emerson was the best representative."

The Brook Farm people who include many of those who left their impress upon the time were optimistic in their outlook upon life. Thoreau was the very essence of the sunshine itself, as all of his writings and all the memories preserved of his talks show. The serenity of Alcott could never be disturbed. Lowell, Holmes, Whittier and Whitman always saw the beautiful around them, and found a joy in living. It was this joy which they made the dominating feature in what they gave to the world.

The great flood-tide of the civil war, writes Mr. Higginson, bore all this sunshine away, not to come back to us again.

Yet it is well that it once existed for its influence is not lost. Sunny memories unite with the inspiration of the work they left behind them, and make rifts of brightness in the mental atmosphere of the present which uplifts thousands of people who are struggling along difficult pathways. Great is the debt which we owe to them for their reasonable and beautiful optimism.

The Cozy Corner

Mrs. Hood, who has been a welcome contributor to the Cozy Corner for several years, sends us the first installment of a story for the New Year. It is open to any of our readers to write the next chapter, carrying out the idea Mrs. Hood has in mind, as it appeals to them. If more than one sends a chapter, both will be given, but the copy should be sent so it will reach this office as soon as possible—certainly by January eleventh.

Mrs. Hood calls her story:

A TALE OF TWO CITIES.

Time, five o'clock; place, the studio of a musician. Upon a raised dais stood a grand piano, above which were two large windows of stained glass set in white frames. Opposite these a window of clear glass gave upon the busy street. A desk, two or three chairs, a clavier, music rack, pictures of the great masters of music and the heat radiator completed the furnishings of the room, across whose white walls the shadows had already begun to flicker.

An elderly gentleman, accompanied by a pale, shrinking girl, quietly entered the room and sat down. The man was neatly attired in black; a full beard of silky whiteness, cheeks made pink by the chilly air, merry blue eyes and a genial manner completed the appearance which indicated him to be a very pleasant acquaintance.

The girl was dressed in a gown of white and wore a white hat and white gloves; over her dress was thrown a long cloak of some heavy material which covered her form completely. Not a smile appeared on her countenance, and not a word passed between the two. She had seated herself facing the piano, but glancing at the stained glass windows, with an angry scowl she noisily turned he rchair toward the front window. The noise attracted the attention of the pianist, who then entered from an inner room. He was a tall blonde, with the somewhat effusive manners of a nervous type of men so often met in his profession.

"Is this Mr. Rhanes, the pianist?" asked the visitor.

"It is," was the answer; "what can I do for you?"

"My name is Downes, and this lady is my niece, Miss Weslake; we wish to arrange for a course of advanced study in music, under your instruction."

During the succeeding conversation Miss Weslake seemed cold and indifferent, and with a formal bow from her they left the room when all arrangements for a future visit had been arranged.

As they passed from the room, Mr. Downes thrust into the hand of Mr. Rhanes a sealed envelope. Turning up the light, he read:

"Dear Sir:—Will you help us? Two years ago an accident occurred which seriously affected Miss Weslake's mind. She is strongly suspicious of every attempt we make to treat her for her trouble, and resents all questionings; what we do must be done in such a way that she may not suspect our intentions. A physician—Dr. Newman—will call upon you this evening and explain more fully than I am able to. You will be well paid for your services.

"ISAAC DOWNES."

His astonishment was great, and the prospect of having such a pupil not at all pleasant; he was in doubt as to how he could deal with her, but resolving to await further developments, he decided to quiet his nerves by a walk in the fresh air. Returning, he sat down to await the promised visit from the physician.

As he sat, a vision of the handsome, blonde face of a man, and the beautiful, star-eyed face of a woman came before him; they were those of a brother and sister who, several years before, had come from the south to study with him. There seemed to be a psychical connection between these, and the incident of today—a connection which then, and always after, emphasized the vision. Those faces were a part of his life from which he could not escape; they haunted his dreams whether waking or sleeping.

His reverie was broken by the entrance of a hearty, wholesome individual, who—

(To be Continued.)

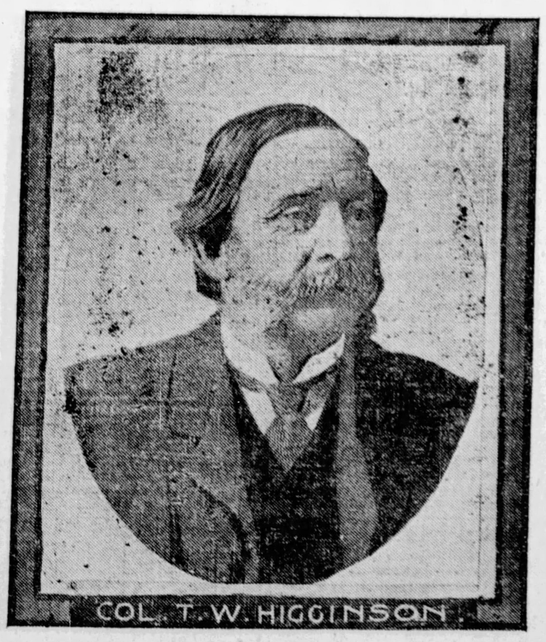
MRS. SABINA HOOD.

A QUESTION.

Mrs. C. V. A. asks this of the members of the Cozy Corner: Will some one be kind enough to tell me what to do to clean a rug on which kerosene has been spilled? The rug is a heavy one, and I have refrained from washing it with water, as I was told that the kerosene would soon evaporate. I laid blotting paper under and over the soiled place, but it had no effect. I shall be greatly obliged for any information that will help me.

"C. H. B." asks the old, old question which has been answered so many times in The Blade, but as "C. H. B." is probably a new subscriber and has never read these answers, we will ask some one who has had experience in "ridding the house of roaches," to tell her their methods.

Silver and linen for a bride should be marked with the initials of her maiden name, even though she will not use them until she has changed it. The gifts are to the maiden, not the wife. All articles purchased by her after her marriage, or that may be given her, are marked with the initial, or family name, of the husband.



Mr. Higginson, who has just passed his eightieth birthday, has always been the friend of equal rights and opportunities for men and women, and was among the earliest to urge higher education for the latter. He also stands staunchly for woman suffrage.

Here, There, Everywhere.

Mostly About Women.

The Woman's Tribune has this to say about women's work, which may be of interest to some of the many young women who write to The Blade, regarding positions in the cities:

To the girls who write asking what is the prospect of obtaining something to do in the city, my answer is, stay at home and raise chickens. The market is oversupplied with clerks and stenographers, but we are eternally short on broilers and fresh eggs.

Get an incubator. Put as much intelligence into raising poultry as you would into writing a story; study the character of a hen as carefully as you would that of Lady Macbeth; work as many hours as you would behind a counter, and, my word for it, you will have twice as much money and health, at the end of the year.

I know one woman who makes a thousand dollars a year, clear money, on her turkeys—but she has to work for it Another woman clears more, on a half an acre of violets, than her husband does on a 500-acre farm.

The trouble with many women who attempt these lines of work, is that they make it only a "side line"—giving it only a few leisure hours. Like any business these require the undivided attention—as far as may be—if they are to be successful.

A woman in Boston has made a new and original departure from the usual ways of those who "let rooms." She has fitted up a house with the rooms plainly, but prettily furnished, where, in addition to sleeping accommodations, there are kitchen and laundry facilities if wished for, where Sunday breakfasts may be cooked and the "roomer" can "kitch" for herself occasionally—a privilege all women will appreciate.

A woman passed the necessary examination and secured a license to run a stationary steam engine, in the District of Columbia. The engine in her care supplies the power for her husband's bakery.

Here is a chance for pessimists to raise a cry of a woman crowding a man out of a job, but how about the man who does the baking, which even the anti-suffragists always allow to be a woman's prerogative?

A woman "Pooh Bah":—Miss Manuela Flores, of Mexico, is mayor, treasurer, secretary, city attorney, city clerk, and stenographer of her home city, all of the regular officials having fallen victims to the yellow fever. Her father, the mayor, was the first victim and as Miss Flores had been his secretary, the governor appointed her to be acting mayor, and in turn, as each other office was vacated, she has taken the work and done all so successfully that it is said the Mexican congress will vote her a medal for bravery and good work during the epidemic.

Among the 27 graduates in the class of '03, at the Amherst Agricultural college, there was one woman—Mrs. Sara E. Folsom—who came off with flying colors, having taken the first prize for general excellence in work for the promotion of agriculture, the special prize for the best method of dairy farm fertilizing and the prize for the best handling of fertilizers on grass lands, in all amounting to $100.

Mrs. Folsom believes there are great opportunities for women in dairy and market gardening, landscape gardening, and forestry. "With the practical training that a farmer's daughter can have at home and a course in a good agricultural college, there is" she says, "no reason why a woman should not make this a pleasant and profitable occupation."

New Zealand women have been remarkably successful in their attempt to better their own condition, and also the laws of the land. They have had the ballot since 1893 only, and these are some of the reforms they have accomplished: The divorce laws have been equalized, as has the municipal franchise. A married man is prevented from willing away from his wife and children all of his property. The saloons closed on election days; the legal profession opened to women, the age of protection for girls, raised to 17 years. An act freeing a woman from a brutal husband and compelling him to pay for the maintenance of wife and children; an act extending a married woman's power to make contracts, an act extending the remedies against the fathers of illegitimate children and an amendment to the police act, preventing men from receiving money from the earnings of prostitution.

All these reforms in ten years through the persistent, constant efforts of women.

THE NEW "AMERICA."

Our country, now from thee
Claim we our liberty,
In freedom's name.
Guarding home's fires,
Daughters of patriot sires,
Their zeal our own inspires,
Justice to claim.

Women in every age
For this great heritage
Tribute have paid;
Our birthright claim we now
Longer refuse to bow,
On freedom's altar now
Our hand is laid.

Sons, will you longer see
Mothers, on bended knee,
For justice pray?
Rise now in manhood's might,
With earth's true souls unite
To speed the dawning light
Of freedom's day.

Elizabeth Boynton Harbert.

A SNOW HOME.

There are some queer homes in the world in which animals or people live. There are homes in the earth, in rocks, in trees, in the water and in the snow. In the country called Greenland—a name it does not deserve at all, because for more than half the year it is dark and covered with ice and snow which even in the short summer time does not melt away—the Innuits or Eskimo build their winter homes in the snow.

The huts are very simply constructed. First tracing a circle on the ground they cut out slabs or bricks of snow to place around it and build a house the shape of half a globe, like the one in the picture. These houses are not cold, as one would think; they shelter their inmates from the fierce arctic storms that blow unceasingly, and never melt until the brief summer sets in, when they are replaced by other homes made of earth and hides of animals.

The polar bear lives in a snow house, too. In the beginning of winter, a mother bear, after looking about and finding a place suitable for her purpose, where the snow will blow and drift over her, lies down and allows herself to be entirely covered. As this covering grows continually deeper, her breath and the warmth from her body gradually melt the snow about her until a hollow place is formed in which she lives with her babies for three months without food or exercise.

The Merry-Go-Rounds.

With a very graceful acceptance of her election to be one of the authors of the Serial story, "A Westerner" sends this glimpse of the beauties of "The Golden Gate":

I wonder how many of the jolly young members of the M. G. R. have ever visited in California, or any place on the Pacific coast? I think "Pacific" is a beautiful name and I wish you could see the great, ocean breakers come rolling in at the Golden Gate. It always reminds me of that line of Whittier's in "Snow Bound":

"And when the sunset gates unbar"—

and it is beyond words of mine to describe a sunset seen through this Golden Gate. "Oh, the glory of it" is the usual expression of people when they watch the sky, out over the ocean, in the long, summer twilight; it is always beautiful and always different.

A moment ago I heard the jingling of spurs and some one is whistling "Can You Come Out Tonight"; there is a champing of bits that tells me the ponies are anxious to be off and over the hills for a gallop. "Can I come out tonight?" I can, so with best wishes to all I say farewell.—"A Westerner."

To us who cannot visit the wonderful West, this letter from "Cara Mia," telling of her journey in search of health—which we are glad to hear was successful—will be very welcome:

As it was impossible for me to take all of my M. G. R. friends with me on my Western trip, I must give you a little description of some of the things that made it so pleasant. Through Iowa and Nebraska the waving cornfields and fine farms were not new sights, and, though I had seen sunflowers, I never befo e saw such acres of them as I did in Kansas, which is well named the Sunflower State.

As we neared Denver, the outlines of the mountain ranges began to appear, and by the time we reached Colorado Springs these mountains seemed very close, and snow-capped Pike's Peak rose in its majesty seen through the clear atmosphere.

From the Springs to Salida, the trip is full of interest with its wonderful canyons, their crested crags growing higher and higher and the rivers rushing so madly along the rocky beds. The trip westward on the narrow gauge was a grand panoramic scene from first to last. In climbing the mountains the train wound around and around the side until four tracks could be seen at a time. Again the train glided along between close, regular walls now and then broadening out till one can see the top of dizzy cliffs far above the track and as the poet says:

"The faint stars shine in broad mid-day
Through twilight mists, gold rifted,
Where oval streams make dizzy leaps
O'er Jasper walls blue rifted."

Then through the grand mountain scenery, ever changing and ever beautiful, we went till we reached the Hot Springs, from which, if you drink, you can obtain everlasting youth—so the legends say, but I cannot vouch for anything more than that the water is so hot that it will boil an egg in 25 minutes. Close by these springs runs a clear, cold spring that has its origin from some high mountain peak miles away.

Before leaving the West I visited the city of the Saints—Salt Lake. The buildings and grounds here are most beautiful and, though I was not allowed even a peep into the temple, I went through the tabernacle, that great building with its oval roof whose arches span the auditorium, without a support. I had the great pleasure of hearing an organ recital while I was in the city and the marvelous strains of music cannot soon be forgotten.

It was late in the season for much sight-seeing at this place, but I saw a sunset that was unequalled for grandeur as the sun sank behind the mountains like a ball of fire, reflecting all its glory in the great salt basin.

"Through wondrous scenes my pleasant path has wound,
From 'Palmer Lake' to that enchanted ground—
The Garden of the Gods.
and then:—
We pass to that enchanted sea
The Great Salt Lake—enwrapped in mystery.
And as it slumbers 'neath the setting sun,
I sigh to think my wondrous journey's done.

"Cara Mia," Iowa.

A new correspondent comes today telling in rhyme of the features of life in Oklahoma:

OUT IN OKLAHOMA.

I live in Oklahoma
And take the Weekly Blade.
For news from every country
It lays others in the shade.

My home is in a prairie town
With scarce a tree in sight,
And we often hear the coyotes
Howling in the night.

There are rabbits on the prairie,
With very stumpy tails,
And out among the sand-hills
The sportsmen shoot the quails.

We have the finest climate,
With scarcely e'er a blizzard;
In Spring time when we take a walk
We often meet a lizard.

We scarcely see a load of wood,
And no not need a splinter,
For a candle or a lantern
Will keep us warm in Winter.

We have a fine new court house;
In the basement is the jail.
Which is now jammed full of convicts
With none to go their bail.

And when our judge sits on the bench
And hears the lawyers blow,
He either sends them to the "pen,"
Or else he lets them go.

If you come to Oklahoma
You can have your fill of game;
So if you want to "tough it,"
Move out and take a claim.

J. A. BUTCHER, O. T.

Banner Puzzlers

For November.

New Work—Hawkeye.
Solutions—U No Hoo.

1.—WHO WAS HE?

He was born in slavery at Louisa Court House, Virginia, in 1829. He was emancipated at six years of age, and, having subsequently fitted himself for college, entered Oberlin, where he graduated in 1849. He then entered the theological school of the same institution, where he graduated in 1853. Having studied law, he was admitted to the bar in 1854, and, after a practice of thirteen years in the legal profession in Ohio, he accepted a professorship of law in Howard University, Washington, D. C. After a time he was appointed dean of the faculty, and in 1873 became the vice-president and acting president of the institution. In 1871 he was appointed, by President Grant, a member of the board of health of the District of Columbia, being elected secretary of that board in 1875. In 1877 he was appointed, by President Hayes, minister to Hayti, a post at which he remained until 1886. He was the author of various scientific, political and literary works, and as a public speaker established quite a reputation.

W. P. E.

2.—ARITHMETICAL PROBLEM.

A woman took a large jar of butter to town, and the grocer said it only weighed 31 pounds but when she put the jar of butter where the weights were, and the weights where the butter had been, it took another 5-pound weight to balance the butter. If the jar weighed 3 pounds and 6½ ounces, what was the true amount of butter?

ELFA.

3.—PRINTER'S PI.

"Taht voel rof neo, romf hichw reeth thodton gripns
Wedi velo rof lal, si tub a shortwels gnith."

METTA.

4.—SQUARE-WORD.

X X X X X
X X X X X
X X X X X
X X X X X
X X X X X

1.—A fruit.
2.—A bird.
3.—At a red heat.
4.—A spice.
5.—A stone or wood worker.

HENRY.

5.—QUERY.

When was the first book printed in America, and what was it?

HAWKEYE.

6.—QUOTATION.

Who wrote: "Buy what thou hast no need of, and ere long thou shalt sell thy necessaries."

U NO HOO.

Answers to Puzzles of Dec. 24.

1.—Charles Dickens.
2.—The Cricket On the Hearth.
3.—Words forming bell: T, the, wet, lucid, aches, crier, chimney, household, superstruct, Centrals—The Chimes.
4.—Toby Veck and Meg; John Peerybingle and Dot; Bob Cratchit and Tiny Tim; Scrooge and Marley; Gruff and Tackleton; Caleb Plummer and Bertha; May Fielding and Edward.
5.—In Dickens' Christmas story of the Haunted Man, the hero, one Redpath, a chemist, having met with various wrongs in the early part of his life, decides that it would be far better for himself and for all mankind if they could forget past troubles and sorrows entirely. A ghostly counterpart of himself visits him on Christmas Eve, and bestows upon him the power of thus forgetting, telling him that the power will go out from him to every one he meets, so that he shall become a benefactor to his race, if indeed it be a blessing to forget all sorrow. The event proves that it is not, for wherever he goes, discontent and ingratitude spring up in his footsteps, and the man, finding how very horrible is this new power of his which he is unable to keep to himself, hides away from all of his kind. A second visit from his phantom self gives him hope that a certain cheerful little woman, "Mrs. William," has the antidote for the poison he spreads. He has avoided her, fearing to see in her the change he has wrought in others, but he goes to her now, and finds that it is true that wherever she goes his work is undone, and people grow happy and thankful and contented again. The old building where the chemist lodges, and which is kept by "William and Mrs. William" had been originally built for a college, and has a great hall, on the wall of which hangs a picture of one of the founders. In this hall, on Christmas day, the chemist gives a great feast for all the people in the story, and for all their kin. It is a very happy party, and after the evening shadows have begun to gather they all sit around the great fire-place watching the light as it flickers up and down. The final paragraph of the story is this: "The sedate face in the portrait looked down at them from under its verdant wreath of holly as they looked up at it, and clear and plain below, as if a voice had uttered them, were the words: 'Lord, keep my memory green.'"

6.—'Tiny Tim' gave as a Christmas toast: "God bless us every one."

HOW TIXIE WAS LOST AND FOUND.

Tessie is the name of a little girl that
Owns Tixie. Tixie is a pretty, white cat,
With the bushiest tail, and the silkiest fur,
And the dreamiest eyes, and the gentlest purr.

And the story I'll tell is, how Tixie got lost,
And where he was found, and the trouble it cost,
And the sorrow that poor little Tessie endured
While the fate of Tix was as yet unassured.

One day Tess was playing with Tix on the stairs,
When upward he ran, and, to her unawares,
Popped out of a wide-open attic window
And fell to the pavement, O, far, far below.

From the roof to whose edge he had run far away,
And where he had ne'er been before till that day,
In a policeman's yard, who, as we shall see,
Returned him again, all safe, to Tessie.

When Tessie missed Tixie, a search she had made,
Calling mamma and sister and nurse to her aid.
They searched under bureaus, pillows, everywhere
That a kitten could hide, yet found him not there.

E'en in the water pitcher poor little Tess peered,
Lest in it he'd fallen and drowned, as she feared;
Yet search was in vain, and the poor little maid
Remained unconsoled, and was sorely afraid.

About a week later, the policeman heard
Of the sad bereavement which this family stirred;
So thought he to himself, "That's the kitten I found
Lying in my back yard, half dead, on the ground.

"It's well now as ever, and I'll just take it home
To the house whence I know somehow it has come."
He did so, and needless that I here should add
How pleased every one was, and Tessie how glad.

THE APPLE MISSION.

One day, upon answering a gentle ring at my doorbell, I found a sweet little girl five or six years old, waiting to see me. A tiny white handkerchief was folded across her shoulders and down to a point at the waist. On her left arm hung a red and black calico stocking bag. A quaint, curious little figure she was. Her errand was as singular as her appearance.

"Will you let me mend stockings for you this morning, ma'am, or mittens? I

"WILL YOU LET ME MEND STOCKINGS FOR YOU?"

will mend for five cents an hour, and I can mend torably well, dranma says."

I drew her into the sitting room, gave her a small chair by the fire, and said: "Now, my dear, why do you want to mend stockings for me?"

Without appearing to heed my question she gravely drew from her bag a gray stocking with a nicely mended heel.

"Here," she said, "is a hole I mended for dranma yesterday. Proerbly you would like a sample."

I praised the neatly darned "hole" and repeated my question. She smiled, and said brightly, "Oh, yes, dranma said I would have to 'splain to you 'bout my 'siety because you might not know all about it. You see, there's ten of them, and they're very tired at night, and apples rest them. You know horses like apples dretful much. Every horse has to have an apple, and sometimes they're so tired they have to have two, and that's manyer than dranma's dot, and so I have to mend things and det some money. Dranma said I must tell people all about it. Do you un'stan' now?"

I assured her that I was very sorry for the tired horses, and that she should mend for me an hour a day for a long time. At this the demure little mouth broke into lively smiles as she said, "Oh, dood, dood!" and began at once to open her bag and hunt for a thimble and needle, while I went to find her some work.

She said little as she worked, but gave such attention as would bring great skill to many a grown mender. Once she stopped her work a moment, and said, speaking slowly: "Oh, one day I didn't know what I sood do, I didn't have one apple left, not one for dranma. I save a soft one for her. She's dood, dranma's very dood. You see one of the men whipped his horse, and so I had to give him an apple, too; I gave him dranma's apple, and then he didn't whip his horse no more. I was sorry for dranma; but she didn't care any when I 'splained to her; she dest give me a love pat."

"A love pat! What's that?" I inquired.

"Oh, don't you know? It's dest a soft, dentle, little pat on your cheek. I like love pats. Hain't you dot any little dirl?"

"Not now, my dear. God took my little girl away to heaven when she was about as old as you are."

"Did he? Then perhaps he gave her to my mamma. Dod's dot my mamma, too."

Something made me bend down and kiss her sweet cheek. She looked up quickly and said: "If my mamma's dot your little dirl, then I must tome and mend for you, mustn't I? I tould bring my things and stay, only I tan't leave dranma, tourse."

She looked up at me with sweet blue-gray eyes, clear and pure as the sky; eyes whose light shone in upon and brightened the deep shadow of my own loss.

"And what will you do in summer, little one, when there are no apples? Will you give each horse a lump of sugar?"

"Tan I? Oh, of course, horses would like that. Yes, that's dest what I'll do."

"How came you to have your 'siety, as you call it?"

"Well, you know, the minister said I must be a little 'deavorer, and help people; and so I found the horses. Some of them draw toal all day, and then they're dest dretful tired; and I know I ought to help them, tause they couldn't talk and tell anybody."

When the mending was finished—very neatly, too, for the work of such small hands—she put away needle and thimble very seriously, and went home "to see 'bout dranma."

After a few days I hunted up my little friend's home, which proved to be scarcely a square away. For a few rods the road approached the house by a steep incline. I was fortunate in the time of my visit. "Dranma" was going to have a load of coal, a little too heavy a load, evidently, for the horse. About midway up the hill the heavy wheels seemed to settle down to stay, and the horse after some patient tugging seemed to become discouraged. At length, in the midst of whipping and scolding, the tiny little figure of my stocking mender appeared by the roadside. She seemed to have by instinct the tact of an accomplished strategist and the kindness of an angel Soon she said with a smile, "It's pretty hard work to drive a coal team, ain't it?"

The driver glanced down annoyed, but the sight of her small figure and sweet face made his features relax a little at once.

Perceiving her slight advantage, she said immediately, "I think I sood try a love pat."

The man broke into a laugh, and said, "That's so chick. How'll I do it?"

"Pat his neck very softly with your hand, very softly, and I'll dive him this apple; then he'll proerbly pull better," she replied, and stepped at once in front of the horse, and reached up to him a fine red apple. The driver doubled up with laughter for a moment, and then actually patted the neck of the horse gently and lovingly, while the poor beast munched his apple.

"Now I dess if the load ain't too big he tan pull it," said the child. Surely he could and did.

"Maybe you're tired, too, and would like an apple." I heard the child's voice say as they reached the last step of the incline, and she offered the man a small apple, not so fine a one as she had to the horse.

"I b'live I would, my beauty. Thank ye; ye're a trump. I won't hit the old hoss again today, blamed if I will."

I rose from my seat under a tree, where I had retired to be out of the way, and to witness the proceedings. Below me was a long shed connected with a railway station. Here, no doubt, my little "deavorer" found her tired horses at evening waiting for whatever business the last train might bring them.

As one would suppose I found my call at the little home very pleasant. "Dranma" was an unusual old lady, most kind, simple and sagacious. The child, always called "Dolly, dear," showed me treasures of dolls of varied colors, materials and names. With all her sweet graces of kindness and wonderful wisdom, she was full of all the simple gayety of a child, perhaps fuller of it because of those graces. I congratulated myself on having found such a little friend, and all Christian endeavor workers on having such a co-laborer. When we can, in so childlike and trusting a spirit, work together with God, men will bear and forbear.—From Our Dumb Animals.

Chat.

Pauline, George Vore, Mrs. H. Larned, W. P. E. and Helen recited good lessons this morning.

Pauline, holiday time excuses most things, even tardiness at the 'Cademy.

George Vore, you are welcome to the 'Cademy. Come again.

W. P. E., pencil work is always allowable under certain circumstances.

Helen, "the stamps" were forwarded as you directed.

Mrs. H. Larned, you were right about "Dame Fashion."

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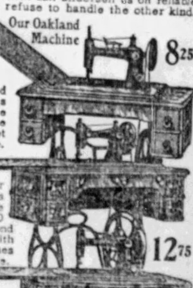

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Concluded from Page Five.

into the audience chamber. An iron railing which separated each row of seats from the adjoining tier prevented, I think, many from reaching places of safety. This circumstance, combined with the steep incline, made it difficult for so large an audience to escape without great delay. The plush on the seats of the first balcony was charred but still visible. This does not look to me as though everybody would have gotten out of the theatre alive when you take into account the speed with which the flames had spread. My inspection showed that the seats on the main floor were burned but little. The balconies had evidently shielded to a large extent the seats in the parquette. The path of the flames was evident. The stage and the ceiling of the theatre was blistered and blackened. There was practically no damage to the furniture on the first floor. The boxes on the second tier were entirely destroyed by fire, while those on the first floor were burned only in spots, evidently by burning fragments from above."

Knew His Wife by a Ring.

One of the pathetic incidents which occurred in the identifying of the dead was when Patrick O'Donnell, a wealthy brewer of this city, found the body of his wife among the hundred or more corpses in an undertaking establishment. Mr. O'Donnell had started down town as soon as he learned of the fire, knowing that his wife had attended the theatre. He was walking through the aisles of tables on which bodies were stacked, when his attention was attracted by a woman's hand, which extended from beneath a sheet which covered a pile of bodies.

"Its my wife, my poor wife," he moaned, and without lifting the sheet he knelt and kissed the hand on one of the fingers of which he recognized a ring he had given his wife as a Christmas present. "I know the ring," he said between his sobs. "My wife is dead, and I prayed to God on the way down town that she might be spared." The body of Mrs. O'Donnell was removed from the pile of dead and taken to her home.

Escape of a Little Girl.

One of the narrow escapes in the first rush for the open air was that of Winnie Gallagher, a girl 11 years of age. The child, who was with her mother in the third row from the stage, was separated in the mad rush for safety. She climbed to the top of the seat in which she had been sitting from one chair to another, finally reached the door. There she was nearly crushed in the crowd and all her clothing was stripped from her. She was carried to the police station in an automobile, where she found her mother who had also escaped uninjured.

John E. Farrell, the stage electrician, was one of the heroes of the fire. He was the first to discover the blaze when it was a little tongue of flame running up the canvas border of the curtain. He climbed a ladder twenty feet above the stage and sought to extinguish it with his hand. He beat helplessly until his hands were badly burned and the fire had run up the canvas border into the flies. Seizing a hand grenade he dashed it at the fire and the falling fluid nearly blinded him. With the cry of "Save yourselves," he fell to the floor and then running to the rear door of the theatre he threw it open, calling to the members of the company to rush into the alley. In the work of assisting the women he was aided by Stage Manager Cummings. As the frightened actors and actresses rushed in a body off the stage, some of them attempted to leap into the orchestra pit which would in all probability have led to their death. Cummings ran in front of them.

Threatened to Kill Them.

"I'll kill the first one that tries to pass me," he shouted, and the members of the company shrank back. With the aid of Eddie Foy and Farrell the members of the company were hustled from the rear of the theatre into the alley. Penned below the stage, running about crazed by the panic overhead, were fifty supernumeraries and members of the ballet. They were cut off from exit by the crowds on the stage stairway. They were saved by James J. Hamilton, a trunk handler attached to the theatre, who led the way to a coal hole in the rear of the building, broke off the cover with his bare fists and stood guard until all had left the basement. Through this narrow hole he lifted men and women clad in their stage costumes, wearing ballet skirts and tights and one 'supe,' who insisted upon carrying his spear with him, until Hamilton threatened to brain him with it unless he dropped it.

All-Night Vigil of Relatives.

All night grief-stricken relatives and friends of missing persons besieged the morgues where the dead had been carried awaiting identification. Hundreds of men and women waited in long lines for hours, finally to lose their patience and demand admittance. For every single person who was allowed to enter the death rooms a score of persons was ordered away.

After waiting for several hours in front of Jordon & Co.'s undertaking establishment in Madison street the crowd of mourners, consisting of over 1,000 persons, became impatient and it took the united efforts of 20 policemen who were guarding the place to quiet the dissatisfied ones.

The aisles between the piles of dead in the place were already filled with persons and it was impossible for those outside to enter until those already inside left to make room. The policemen in charge of the lines of waiting persons, which extended west in Madison street for several blocks, tried to explain the situation, but the excited fathers and husbands and mothers who were anxious about their relatives and friends refused to be pacified. Finally about midnight a little woman dressed in black broke from the lines after having waited all evening for a chance to enter the morgue. She rushed to the door of the undertaking establishment and as she was pushed back by the policeman, exclaimed: "My boy is in there. You have no right to keep me from him. I must have him and will not go home without seeing him." Then the woman rushed toward the door again, not knowing what she was doing, but before she could reach it, fell fainting into the arms of a policeman.

Dramatic Scenes at Morgue.

At Rolston's morgue, 22 Adams street, where nearly 250 bodies lay awaiting identification, the scenes were equaly as dramatic. There were thousands of people in the crowd in front of the place and it was with the greatest difficulty that the police were able to control the situation, so anxious were the grief-stricken people to gain admittance to ascertain if their loved ones had fallen victims to the awful disaster.

At dozens of other places in the city where the dead had been carried the same scenes were enacted.

One of the most thrilling escapes was that of Miss Minnie Overlock,of Virginia, a young girl who was visiting friends in the city. Miss Overlock's companion, Remington Thomas, made an heroic effort to escape with her, but, after carrying her to the door where he placed her on her feet, the two became separated and Thomas is among the missing.

Little Hero Saved Companion.

Two of the first persons that succeeded in getting out of the tomb of fire and death were little Joe Gramah, 12 years old, and Dorothy Bour, a companion of the same age from Woodlawn Park. Youthful grit saved them. They were seated in the parquet ten rows back from the stage.

"When Eddie Foy stepped to the front of the stage and told us to keep still, we decided we would get out despite his assurances that there was no danger," said the boy last night.

"Four women fainted near me, and nearly all the others seemed dazed and just sat still. We got up and kicked one of the doors open. I think a lot of the others in the theatre could have come too, if they hadn't been so scared. When we got outside we waited until they brought a dead man out, and then we started for home."

The fire separated two little girls, who had been playmates for life. One of them escaped unhurt, and ran to her father's office near by, where an hour later she accompanied him to the morgue, where her little playmate had been taken.

The one who was saved was the daughter of Harry Parker, superintendent of the Plamondon Manufacturing Co., while her companion who was knocked down and trampled on and killed, was the daughter of W. R. Davis, head foreman of the same company. The girls had been at the theatre together, and when the cry of fire sounded, they began to make their way toward the exits on the main floor. Hand in hand they struggled with the crowd until a man whom the Parker girl decribes as weighing two hundred pounds, dashed between them. This separated them, and the Harris girl was lost in the crowd and killed.

Victims an Awful Sight.

Some of the bodies were stripped entirely of clothing, and with distorted limbs and mangled and charred features were seen in all their horror. In one respect they were alike. The left arm of nearly every victim was held stiff and close to the side, while the right hand was outstretched as if warding off peril.

HEROISM OF EDDIE FOY

Clown Proves the Strong Man of the Great Disaster.

Chicago, Dec. 31.—The beginning of the disaster was leisurely. The stage hands had been lighting the line of wavering flame along the muslin fly border for some seconds before the audience knew anything was the matter.

The fly border, made of muslin and saturated with paint, was tinder to the flames.

The stage hands grasped the long sticks used in their work. They forgot the hand grenades that are supposed to be on every stage.

"Hit it with the sticks!" was the cry. "Beat it out!" "Beat it out!"

The men struck savagely. A few yards of the border fell upon the stage and was stamped to charred fragments.

That sight was the first warning the audience had. For a second there was a hush. The singers halted in their lines; the musicians ceased to play.

Then the murmur of fear ran through the audience. There were cries from a few, followed by the breaking, rumbling sound of the first step toward the flight of panic.

At that moment a strange, grotesque figure apeared upon the stage. It wore tights, a loose upper garment, and the face was one-half made up. The man was Eddie Foy, chief comedian of the company, the clown, but the only man who kept his head.

Before he reached the center of the stage he had called out to a stage hand, "Take my boy, Bryan, there. Get him out here by the stage way."

The stage hand grabbed the little chap. Foy saw him dart with him to safety as he turned his head.

Freed of parental anxiety, he faced the audience.

"Keep quiet!" he shouted. "Quiet."

"Go out in order!" he shouted. "Don't get excited!"

Between exclamations he bent over toward Herbert Dillea, the orchestra leader.

"Start an overture!" he commanded. "Start anything. For God's sake, play, play, play, and keep on playing."

The brave words were as bravely answered. Dillea raised his wand, and the musicians began to play. Better than any one in the theatre they knew their peril. They could look slantingly up and see that the 30 sets of the Blue Beard scenery all were ablaze. Their faces were white, their hands trembled, but they played, and played.

Foy still stood there, alternately urging the frightened people to avoid a panic and spurring the orchestra on. One by one the musicians dropped fiddle, horn, and other instruments and stole away.

Finally the leader and Foy were left alone. Foy gazed into a flame upward and saw the scenery all aflame. Dropping brands fell around him, and then he fled—just in time to save his own life. The "clown" had proved himself a hero.

Vain Effort to Save a Girl.

Over one girl in Thompson's restaurant doctors labored one hour. They loosed her dress and two of them waved her arms up over her head and slowly brought them down again in an attempt to induce artificial respiration. Every moment or two one of them listened with his stethoscope for her heart beat. There was no sign of a burn on her. She could have been more than 16 years old, and when they forced her eyelids apart her brown eyes were yet bright.

"She is too perfect a creature to give up," said the doctor. Stimulant after stimulant was tried and last of all nitroglycerine was injected. It all seemed useless. The efforts to induce artificial respirations continued ceaselessly, but in the end the doctor gave up. He stood erect. "There is nothing more to be done," he said, "The child is dead. It's horrible."

Didn't Want Mother to Know.

Not far away, nurse and two doctors labored over a boy. After ten minutes he opened his eyes.

"What cher doin' to me?" he questioned.

"Taking care of you," said the doctor. "Tell us your name."

"I ain't goin' to have any one tellin' my mother about this of me. I'm all right, I am. It was a fire; that's what it was."

A woman who assisted in caring for the wounded in Thompson's restaurant spoke of a young girl on a table near the quick-witted boy mentioned. The doctor discovered in his fair patient a spark of life. "Strychnine," he said to the nurse. "I hurried to get it," relates the nurse. "On my way back I stumbled over something soft. The horror of it will be with me always. I had stumbled over a dead man. The girl's hands were cold—as cold as snow. 'Chafe them,' said the doctor, and I did so. Already they were stiffening. Upon one slender finger was a pretty ring. It was all no use, and soon her delicate body was laid with a pile of dead.

Child's Miraculous Escape.

"I'm the most grateful man in all Chicago," said John R. Thompson, who owns the restaurant. "My sister was in the theatre with two children, John, aged 9, and Ruth, aged 7. She almost got to the door with both of them when Ruth disappeared. My sister told me she knew that the child must be safe, but I ran around like a madman for an hour before I found her. How it happened I don't know, but she ran back into the theatre and out under the stage through the stage entrance."

Theater Party Perished.

E. C. Frady, president of the Stohber Piano company, today after unceasing search through the morgues, found five dead of a theatre party of six headed by his wife. Each one was found in a different morgue. One is still missing. Those identified were Miss Lillian M. Frady, Mrs. J. P. Spindler (Mr. Frady's sister), Burdett Spindler, 10 years old, Leon Frady, 10 years old. Frady's mother-in-law died at St. Luke's an hour after reaching the hospital. Mrs. William Riese, a sister of Frady's, is still missing.

One of the most peculiar of the identifications was that of the headless body of Boyer Alexander, 8 years old. The lad's father, Dr. W. T. Alexander, 476 Washington Boulevard, had sleeplessly sought his son all night long and today in examining the headless corpse of a child the physician identified his own by a watch, a birthday present from the father, found upon the remains.

A pitiful scene attended the identification of Marjorie Edwards, 14 years old, of Clinton, Ia. Her father, W. M. Edwards, who has been in Chicago on a visit, identified the daughter's terribly burned body from a sample of the cloth in her skirt, which he carried in his pocket.

Sent Story, His Own Wife Missing.

One of the most remarkable incidents of the fire was not known until today. F. L. Donaldson, a loop chief for the Western Union Telegraph company, handled a long telegraph story of the fire and its harvest of death, unaware that his own wife was among the missing. When he went home he found that she had gone to the theatre. He hurriedly returned and searched for her through the morgues and in the hospitals, but today had not found the least trace of the missing woman.

Adole Philippson, 8 years old, was one of the children struck down and trampled to death. Her body was rescued by the firemen and taken to a drug store. There the child was seen by her mother who had escaped uninjured. The mother became hysterical but was not permitted to go near the child's body. Bystanders tried to make the woman believe the little girl had escaped death. Mrs. Philippson was led away and did not learn the truth for two hours.

Remarkable Escapes of Children.

Foremost among the remarkable escapes was that of Winnie Gallagher, 12 years old. The girl occupied a seat in the third row from the front on the main floor and that she was ablo to make her way through the struggling mass of stronger and older persons is considered remarkable by the police. Unassisted, the girl made her way over the heads of terror-stricken persons and escaped. When she reached the street her clothing was torn almost into shreds.

A list of descriptions of unidentified dead girls was compiled today in the office of Chief of Police O'Neill. The ages of the victims ranged from 9 years to 20 years. The number of unidentified dead girls on the list was 57. For several of the girls, the sole means of identification given was the color of bits of shoe laces and that generally mentioned as "black." Others are scheduled as "burned beyond description." No age.

Prevented Panic in the Garrick.

When the fire engines commenced to patter past the Garrick, Manager Schubert became fearful lest the impression that his theatre was on fire should spread in the audience. When the intermission between acts came, he ordered the doors closed and refused to allow anyone to pass in or out, as he was determined that no knowledge of the fire should reach the audience.

Wilton Lackaye, the star of the play now being presented at the Garrick, stepped before the curtain and entertained the audience for over five minutes with a witty speech which kept his hearers in continual laughter. The orchestra contributed its part toward diverting the the audience until the curtain rose for the next act without anybody other than the theatre employes knowing that hundreds of lives were being sacrificed in the most next door to the Garrick. When the people filed out of the Garrick they were greeted at the door by hundreds of friends, men and women who anxiously scanned their faces to see if any one of their friends were among them.

They were looking for members of their families and acquaintances who had gone down town simply to attend a matinee, without stating to what theatre they had intended to go. There were many scenes of joyful recognition and astonished members of the Garrick audience were hugged and kissed in frantic delight by their relatives who up to that time had believed it possible they were in the pile lying in the doors of the Iroquois theatre.

TRAMPLED ON CHILDREN

Beastly Men Ground LittleOnes Under Foot.

Milwaukee, Dec. 31.—J. Keith Pickrell, of Kenosha, the last man to leave the burning Iroquois theatre by the exit, and who from the front seat of the lower box on the right hand of the theatre saw the entire tragedy from the spark of the arc light which set fire to the curtain until he half carried his companion from the exit through the smoke-filled passageway and who probably of all that excited audience is the best qualified to tell of the terrible scenes that took place in a brief ten minutes, arrived at his home in Kenosha late last night and early this morning gave a graphic description of the awful tragedy in an interview to the Sentinel by long distance telephone. He was with a box party of twelve. Beside him sat Miss Sanborn, of Chicago, and back of him his sister, Miss Beatrice Pickrell. All of the party lost their wraps and Mr. Pickrell had to put out the burning clothes of his companions.

"The first thing I saw of the party," said Mr. Pickrell in describing the awful catastrophe, "was when Miss Sanborn called my attention to a little blaze which was eating its way up on a curtain on the left hand side of the stage. Then somebody yelled "fire." It was a man and he seemed to be down stairs in the middle of the audience. For a second the whole crowd seemed to be paralyzed and before they regained their senses some one stepped to the front of the stage and told them to sit down. Then they sat down, but it was only for a minute. There was an explosion. That was all that was needed and the crowd had lost its paralysis and in another second the whole mob was scrambling for the exit, tearing each other down to get out.

"The men in the audience were the worst. They seemed to lose their heads, and they fought with everybody, trampling down the women and children. The women seemed the calmest, but it must have been because they were the weakest and could not help themselves. The men seemed to forget that there were women there.

"I saw men pick up women and children and hold them over their heads in trying to get them out. Then they would be pulled down with their burdens and trampled on.

"A man in the audience who was sitting in one of the front seats with his wife and child, got up and tried to climb over the railing into our box, leaving his wife and child helpless behind him. An actor jumped from the stage into our box and asked the man what he wanted, what he meant by leaving his wife. The man who seemed half crazy, shouted that he wanted to find a way to get them out. Then he crawled back off the railing and sat down by his wife. I don't know what became of him."

AWFUL WORK OF JURORS

One Man Collapses in Task of Viewing the Dead.

Chicago, Dec. 31.—No decrease is shown this afternoon in fresh estimates of the dead, missing and injured in the Iroquois theatre fire.

Continued sight of dead bodies lying huddled on the floors and tables of the various city morgues, proves too much this afternoon for some of the jurors impannelled by Coroner Traeger. Several of the members of the jury objected to being forced to view the bodies and one juror, Mr. Joseph Cummings, practically collapsed at Rolsten's morgue, where the jury was forced to step over the dead bodies in their tour of inspection.

Board of Trade Adjourns.

As an expression of sympathy for the bereaved in the calamity, the Chicago Board of Trade today adjourned an hour before the usual time. Similar action was taken by the exchanges at Duluth and Milwaukee.

One of the heroes of the fire was Peter Quinn, chief agent of the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe railway system, who assisted in saving the lives of 100 or more of the performers from a fate as horrible as the victims in the theatre proper. Wedged so tightly in a crowd at the door of the stage entrance that they could not move, the men, women and children composing the company of performers were standing helplessly and with agonized looks in their faces. The stage door was closed.

Quinn Rescues Stage Folks.

"The massive stage door of the Iroquois," said Mr. Quinn today, "is like many others of its kind. The two main swinging doors are used when scenery is taken to or from the theatre and built in the swinging structure itself is a small trap door used by the players in leaving or entering the stage. This trap door opened inwardly.

"As I passed it I heard a commotion and saw the door was slightly open and peering into the opening I curiously asked what was the trouble. Then for the first time I and others who had arrived outside about the same time learned that the theatre was on fire. The players, men, women, and children had rushed to this small trap door for escape, got caught in a solid mass and were so firmly wedged together that they could not move. They were banked solidly against the little door and it could not be opened. Nearly all of the players were in their stage costumes and the women had not even had time to remove the paint from their faces.

Women Begged for Rescue.

"The women screamed and begged us to rescue them and the cries of the children could be heard above the hoarse shouts of the men. We tried to force the door open but the crowd was banked up too tightly against it.

"Then came a volume of smoke and far in the rear of the crowd we could see the illumination from the flames. I had a number of small tools in my pocket and immediately proceeded to remove the metal attachments which held the door in place. This was accomplished with some difficulty, and then we managed to force the crowd back probably an inch, but that was sufficient. The door was then permitted to drop from its place, and one by one the imprisoned players were assisted into the alley. Even when the last player and stage hand had reached the alley we could not realize the awfulness of what had happened. I walked in upon the stage and found it a seething furnace. The players had been rescued just in time. A minute later and the flames and smoke would have reached the imperiled ones and they would have been suffocated or burned where they stood."

MESSAGES OF SYMPATHY

England and Russia Express Sorrow Over Disaster.

Washington, Dec. 31.—The following cablegram has been received at the state department from Ambassador Choate at London, dated today:

"Citizens of London through the lord mayor offer their deep sympathy and sincere condolence with the American people in the awful loss of life at the Chicago fire."

The following cablegram has been forwarded from the state department to Ambassador Choate, at London:

"Assure lord mayor and citizens of London of the high appreciation of their sympathetic message in this hour of sorrow.

(Signed) "LOOMIS, Acting Sec'y."

Count Cassini, the Russian ambassador, went to the state department today, although he has been suffering several days from a cold, and expressed the sympathy of the Rusian emperor for the people of the United States in this hour of affliction. Mr. Loomis assured the ambassador that the expressions of the emperor were deeply appreciated and a message to that effect has been cabled to St. Petersburg.

OTHER THEATER HORRORS

Notable Disasters of the Past Century.

IN THE UNITED STATES.

Brooklyn theatre, Dec. 5, 1876.....297 dead
Central theatre, Philadelphia, April 28, 1892..... 6 dead
Front Street theatre, Baltimore, Dec. 28, 1856..... 22 dead
Iroquois theatre, Chicago, Dec. 30, 1903.....600 dead

IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

Lehman's theatre, St. Petersburg, 1836.....700 dead
Carlsruhe theatre, St. Petersburg, 1847.....200 dead
Ring theatre, Vienna, Dec. 8, 1881..875 dead
Exeter theatre, England, Sept. 5, 1887.....200 dead
Banquet theatre, Oporto, March 21, 1888.....200 dead
Opera Comique, Paris, May 25, 1887.. 75 dead

While the list of theatres destroyed by fire in the United States is long, it contains strikingly few which were attended with large loss of life. By far the worst disaster of the kind hitherto in this country was the Brooklyn theatre fire. It started during the last scene of the last act of the Two Orphans, in which Kate Claxton was playing. Miss Claxton as Louise, the poor blind girl, had just lain down, pulled a rope and the play required when she saw above her in the flies a tiny flame. Mr. Murdock, who was on the stage with her, saw it about the same time, and was so dazed he began to stammer his lines. Miss Claxton tried to reassure him, but only partially succeeded.

It was only a short time before the audience realized the building was on fire and began to move. Seeing a panic was likely Miss Claxton, Mr. Murdock and Mrs. Farren joined hands, came to the footlights, and begged the audience to go out in an orderly way, saying, "You see we are between you and the fire."

This reassured the crowd for a moment, but one frantic man shouted, "It is time to be out of this," and a panic began. The doors of the main exit opened inward, and there was such a jam at these they could not be opened. The crowds from the galleries rushed down the stairways, and being blocked by those below, fell or lumped headlong into the struggling mass. Those who were saved escaped slowly through the smaller exits. There were 1,000 people in the theatre and one-third perished, burned, suffocated, or trampled to death. One of the victims was Mr. Murdock, the actor, who tried with Miss Claxton to reassure the audience.

The Opera Comique fire in Paris in 1881 was much like the Charity Bazaar fire in the same city, where so much cowardice was displayed by men. Strong men fought women, knocked them down, and trampled them in their eagerness to save themselves. The play was Mignon. Many of the actors and actresses escaped only in their costumes and some without any clothes at all. The scenes in the street, where women in tights and ball dresses and men in the gorgeous attire of their theatrical roles ran among the dead and dying made a fantastic picture. The fire here occurred during the first act, and the official list of dead was seventy-five.

It was the feast of the Immaculate Conception when the Ring theatre in Vienna was burned in 1881. Offenbach's Les Contes d'Hoffman was the play, and a large holiday audience was present. The first part of the performance had been given, and the ballet had assembled for the second part, 2,500 being present. Suddenly fire was observed in the scenery and a wild panic started. The entrances to the theatre were long and torturous, and people became jammed at the doors at the foot of the gallery were suffocated or trampled lifeless in heaps.

An iron curtain, designed for just such emergencies, was forgotten in the excitement, and the fire, which might thus have been confined to the stage, spread furiously through the entire building. Vienna became a city of mourning. So charred were most of the bodies found that a small per cent were identified. One hundred and fifty-one of the victims were buried in a vast common grave 108 feet long by 14 feet wide.

EMPLOYES ARRESTED.

They Are Held as Witnesses for the Coroner.

Chicago, Jan. 1.—Thirteen employes of the Iroquois Theatre were arrested last night on orders issued by Chief of Police O'Neil. The charge against them is at present that of being accessory to manslaughter. They will be held pending the verdict of the coroner's jury. The men arrested included Wm. Carlton, stage manager, and Edward Cummings, stage carpenter. The others were stage hands, scene shifters and actors. After being taken in custody by the police, four of the men told Chief O'Neil that they had been requested by people connected with the theatre to leave the city. When asked who advised them to do this they at first refused to say, but later admitted that the advice was given by Assistant Stage Manager Plunkett.

They said they were about to follow Plunkett's advice, and all of them had packed their trunks and would have been out of the city had not the police arrested them.

Chief of Police O'Neill said that the arrest of the men did not indicate that there was any specific blame attached to them. The move was made to prevent the possible disappearance of witnesses before the time when they are needed at the inquest.

PRESIDENT'S SYMPATHY

Message Sent From the White House to People of Chicago.

Chicago, Dec. 31.—The following message was received this morning:

Washington, Dec. 31.

"To Hon. Carter H. Harrison, mayor, Chicago.

"In common with all our people throughout this land, I extend through you, to the people of Chicago, my deepest sympathy in the terrible catastrophe which has befallen them.

(Signed) "THEODORE ROOSEVELT."

MANAGERS ARRESTED.

Complaint Sworn Out by One Who Lost Entire Family.

Chicago, Jan. 2.—Formally charged with manslaughter, Managers Will J. Davis, and Harry J. Powers, of the Iroquois theatre, with City Building Commissioner Williams, were today held under bonds of $10,000 each. Colonel William Pinkerton and Charles H. Plamond furnished bonds for Davis and Powers. Andrew J. Graham, banker, furnished bond for Commissioner Williams.

Mr. Hull, the complaining witness, is connected with a Chicago commercial agency.

Tomorrow he will leave Chicago with the bodies of the four members of his family for his wife's former home, Troy, N. Y., where they will be buried. Mr. Hull stated that he would return after the funeral to prosecute the cases. His entire family was wiped out in the fire. He said:

"My wife and my children, all I ever had to live for, are gone. All that remains is for me to try to make some one pay for this carelessness.

"A few carpenters and stage hands have been arrested. Men who sang in the chorus are in jail. Such an investigation is a cruel mockery. The men who are responsible are allowed to walk the streets untouched while a few laborers are punished.

"This has been the greatest calamity in the city's history, and the authorities must understand that those who have suffered will never wait for them to dally along. There must be no play or favoritism in this investigation."

Arraigned for Manslaughter.

Chicago, Jan. 2.—Twenty men, arrested in connection with the Iroquois theatre tragedy, were arraigned before Justice Cavelry in the Harrison street police court today on a charge of manslaughter. Five of the defendants were members of the chorus of the Mr. Bluebeard company and were defended by Attorney Thomas Hogan. No testimony was given in court and it was immediately agreed that a continuance be granted. Most of the time was taken up by effort by the attorney to have the bonds of his clients reduced from the $5,000 in which they had been held. In the end the bonds in each case were reduced to $1,000, and the cases placed on the calendar for hearing January 11. Attorney Hogan told the magistrate that his clients had nothing to do with the management, construction or handling of the scenery. He said they continued singing even after the audience became panic-stricken in a vain effort to allay the fear of the frightened audience. Those who will be arraigned before Justice Caverly January 11, are:

Edward G. J. Wines, Victor Bosart, Samuel Bell, William Slack, John J. Russell and E. T. Mora.

The other defendants will have a hearing before Justice Caverly Monday. They are:

W. D. Kerr, William McMullen, William Plunkett, Max Mazzonivitch; A. Bernard, Edward Engle, William McQueen, William Olsen, F. Polande, William Carlton, J. Jandraw, F. P. Nolan.

Their bonds were placed at $5,000 each.

McMullen is considered by the police to be one of the most important witnesses. H was in charge of the spot light which set fire to the scenery and resulted in the large loss of life.

Frank Poland made a vain effort to have his bond reduced from $5,000 saying that he was off the stage when the fire started. He told the magistrate that he and another empolye, a stranger to him, were in a balcony above the gallery controlling the arc lights which made the "pale moonlight" for the show. When the panic occurred, he says, his companion jumped to his death. He could not remember the faintest details of his own escape. The magistrate refused to decrease the amount of the bond, believing that Poland might be able to explain the condition of the exist before the fire.

CHICAGO IN MOURNING

Hundreds of Funerals Held in the Stricken City.

Chicago, Jan. 2.—Church bells tolling at noon, business activity checked, many celebrations postponed and long lines of funerals making their way to the outlying districts where the cemeteries are situated—these evidenced Chicago's outward grief for the Iroquois theatre disaster today. Ministers of the gospel went from funeral to funeral today as they will tomorrow and Monday. The unidentified dead will be kept as long as possible at the morgue. If no one then comes to lay claim to the bodies they will be buried at the city's expense. By common consent of the clergy "Lead, Kindly Light," the hymn written by Cardinal Newman, is being sung at all funerals.

The city hall, except in absolutely necessary departments, was closed today. The board of trade closed an hour earlier than usual and a number of mercantile and manufacturing establishments also closed early. The large retail dry goods stores were a notable exception. The managers concluded that the extraordinary demand for mourning goods would work a hardship to the bereaved friends of the dead should the stores close.

The banks were open as usual.

Thirty-four teachers in the public schools are known to have lost their lives in the fire, and the schools will be closed Monday in their memory.

The tolling of bells at noon for an hour was in response to an expressed wish of Mayor Harrison. The mayor said:

"Tolling the church bells throughout the city on Chicago's day of mourning for the dead who perished in the fire at the Iroquois theatre would be an appropriate expression of grief. The suggestion was made to me by a clergyman and I wish it to be published, so that pastors may carry it out. I strongly urge them to begin the tolling of the bells at noon and to let the mournful sound continue for an hour. Such an expression of sorrow would bring to the hearts and minds of every one the memory of Chicago's terrible loss."

Effects of Victims.

Chicago, Jan. 2.—From the large number of complaints received of the loss of personal effects from the bodies of the fire victims, the coroner's office clerks estimate that $100,000 worth of diamonds, watches, jewelry, furs and other personal property was lost in the fire. Many of the victims had money in their possession which could not be found when the bodies were examined at the morgues. Much of the property is at police headquarters. Much more was stolen, and a great deal was probably ruined and lost in the fire.

CLOSING THEM UP.

Every Place Closed That Does Not Comply With the Law.

Chicago, Jan. 4.—Notice served by Mayor Harrison of a possible wholesale closing, not merely of theatres, but of churches, stores, office buildings, factories, hotels and private residences, has aroused the city. Before the mayor proceeds to extremes, the city council will have a chance to revise the laws and strike out provisions which are held to be unjust to property owners and not essential to safety. The council once having acted, or having decided not to act, then the laws are to be enforced.

As the ordinances stand at present, strict enforcement it is stated, would paralyze all business, professional, and industrial interests of the city. For that reason Mr. Harrison will give the council the opportunity of acting.

The immediate effect of the mayor's resolution will be revision of the laws. That regarding the inclosing of elevators, which, if it were enforced now, would close nearly every office building, store and hotel in the city, is in the hands of the city council judiciary committee, has been partly amended and now is practically before the council for final adoption by the aldermen.

This amendment will make it unnecessary for fireproof buildings to have inclosed shafts, which are considered as offering no greater safety and as imposing unnecessary hardships on the elevator operators and the passengers.

Then the council may find it advisable to repeal the ordinance providing for fire escapes on private residences of four or more stories in height.

The investigation into the Iroquois fire horror has passed beyond the stage of cause-seeking to that of fixing responsibility for causes. This work was taken up today by Fire Inspector Monroe Fulkerson, who has the assistance and co-operation of the chief of police and of Coroner Traeger. Every employe of the theatre, both on the stage and in the auditorium, is on the list summoned for investigation. Witnesses to the number of sixty-five will be examined.

Upon Treasurer John J. Noonan, of the Iroquois theatre, Chief O'Neill has levied for the payrolls of the house, giving the names of the employes. From union officials other data concerning these employes has been sought. Although the police interposed no objection when the members of the Mr. Bluebeard company left for the east some of the actors may be brought back to add their testimony to that of the sixteen members who have been arrested.

Inspector Fulkerson said: "I have determined that the fire originated from the contact of a linen curtain with an intensely heated and inadequately protected flood light. I have determined that the curtain stuck because a piece of stage mechanism in normal operation was directly in the path of the descent of the fire shield. I know that the fire was driven under the suspended curtain by the rush of cold air into the stage when some one opened the rear doors. I have evidence that the automatic skylights over the stage did not open as they should have done and create a flue through which the flames, smoke, and heated air on the burning stage could have found a vent. It is apparent that the exits were not adequate. The next step is fixing the responsibility."

MANAGERS HAD WARNING

At Previous Trial Fire Curtain Failed to Work.

Chicago, Ill., Jan. 5.—Evidence showing grosser criminal negligence than anything previously developed was given under oath today in the fire department investigation of the Iroquois horror. Joseph Dougherty, who had charge of the curtain, swore that two weeks ago, during a matinee performance, there was a fire on the stage and that when he attempted to lower the asbestos curtain it was stopped by a plank that prevented its operation last Wednesday, the fatal afternoon.

The curtain manager declares that he protested at that time, but that no attention was paid to his warning. In his opinion, if the curtain had been run down during the fatal matinee, many, if not all the victims of the disaster might have been saved. It was only by the merest chance that a panic was averted as the result of the first fire. The skylight at that time, he said, was securely closed.

Arrangements for the inquest over the bodies of victims of the Iroquois theatre fire were completed by Coroner Traeger today. Everything is now in readiness for the examination of witnesses when the inquiry begins Thursday. Since the day after the fire the sheriff's office has been busy serving subpoenas on persons wanted as witnesses. One hundred and forty of them have been summoned, among them being Will J. Davis and Harry J. Powers, resident managers of the Iroquois theatre; City Building inspector Williams, Chief of Police O'Neill and his assistant, Schuettler, and Fire Chief Musham.

The coroner spent several hours today in a secret search for new evidence. He examined several witnesses at their homes but declined to make public the result of his interviews.

States Attorney Deneen announced today that no special grand jury would be called to investigate the theatre fire and its attendant loss of life.

"The coroner's jury is making careful inquiry into the cause of the fire and its attendant loss of life," said he, "and will undoubtedly fix all the responsibility."

Two important witnesses were discovered today in the persons of Charles F. Koester and Henry Zander, real estate dealers. They were passing the Iroquois theatre when the fire broke out and attempted to get into the theatre. While smoke was issuing from the cracks in the front door they were denied admission. They declare that the doors were kept closed by the ushers and attendants in the lobby for nearly five minutes after the fire was discovered on the stage.

Foreman Jones, of the Fuller Construction Co., said by witnesses to have smashed in the skylight of the theatre after the fire, has been found. He was examined today in connection with the allegation that an attempt was made to destroy evidence.

The first damage suit against the proprietors of the Iroquois theatre and the city of Chicago growing out of the fire, has been filed by Ivy Owens as administrator of the estates of Miss Amy Owens and Mrs. Frances E. Owens, her mother.

The action is for the recovery of $10,000 damages and is directed against the Iroquois Theatre company, the city of Chicago and Will J. Davis and Harry J. Powers, managers of the theatre. Miss Owens was a teacher.

GEN. LONGSTREET DEAD.

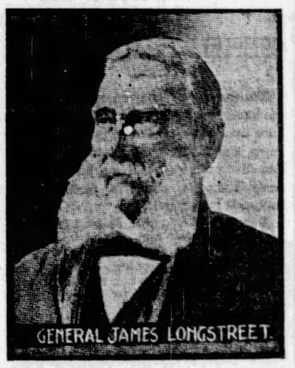
Saved the Day for the Southern Army at Both First and Second Battles of Bull Run.

Atlanta, Ga., Jan. 4.—General James Longstreet, soldier, statesman and diplomat and the last lieutenant general of the confederate army with the exception of General Gordon, died in Gainesville, Saturday, from an attack of acute pneumonia. He had been ill but two days.

General Longstreet was a sufferer from cancer of one eye, but his general health had been good until Wednesday, when he was seized with a sudden cold, developing later into pneumonia of a violent nature.

He was 83 years old. He is survived by a widow, four sons and a daughter. He will be buried in Gainesville, which has been his home since the civil war.

As a commander General Longstreet has been accorded by able critics of both


GENERAL JAMES LONGSTREET.

America and Europe a place along with Wellington and Cromwell.

James Longstreet was born in Edgefield district, South Carolina, Jan. 8, 1821, but while a boy removed with his widowed mother to Alabama. From that state he was appointed a cadet in the military academy at West Point, from which institution he graduated in 1842.

Entering the army at once, he served with the Fourth infantry at Jefferson barracks, Missouri, for two years and was ordered to frontier duty at Natchitoches, La., and afterward stationed in the military occupation of Texas until the breaking out of the Mexican war.

Lieutenant Longstreet took an active and valiant part in the battles of Palo Alto, Resaca de la Palma, Monterey, the siege of Vera Cruz, Cerro Gordo, San Antonio, Cherubusco and Moleno del Rey.

For the manner in which he conducted himself in these battles he was made captain and later brevet major.

He was in front of the storming forces at Chapultepec, September 8, 1847, and in the advance on the fortified convent was severely wounded.

After the close of the war with Mexico Major Longstreet was assigned to duty on the frontier, chiefly in Texas. In 1858 he became paymaster, which position he filled until June 1, 1861, when he resigned from the service of the United States and entered the confederate army, receiving a commission as brigadier general.

At Bull Run Longstreet's brigade held back a large force of union troops which sought to support McDowell in his flank attack.

On the retirement of Joseph E. Johnston from Yorktown, Gen. Longstreet commanded the rear guard, having been promoted to the rank of major general.

May 5, at Williamsburg, Gen. Longstreet held his ground against the combined forces of Heintzelman, Hooker and Kearney, and did not yield an inch until the union forces were heavily reinforced by Hancock, when he withdrew his command in the best of order within his works.

When Pope was pressing his overwhelming forces against Jackson at the second Bull Run, Longstreet hurled his corps into the fray, swept the federals from the field, and gave the victory to the confederate arms.

He commanded the confederate left wing at Fredericksburg. At Gettysburg he commanded the right wing and a difference of opinion developed between him and Gen. Lee which served to estrange them for years afterward.

After the return of the army of northern Virginia south of the Potomac General Longstreet was ordered with his corps to Tennessee, under General Braxton Bragg, and at the battle of Chickamauga made the famous assault on Snodgrass hill, which has been pronounced by certain historians as one of the most daring and thrilling charges known to history.

From Chickamauga General Longstreet led his forces against Knoxville, which he found too strongly fortified to carry by storm.

Early in 1864 he was back in Virginia with Lee and in the battle of the Wilderness was severely wounded by the fire of his own troops.

In the operations from Richmond to Appomatox he was in command of the first corps of Lee's army and with the other officers of that battle-scarred army put aside his sword at Appomattox April 9, 1865.

Mrs. Gen. Grant was a cousin of Gen. Longstreet.

After the war Grant befriended each wife's cousin and Long

FIRM REFUSAL

To Entertain the Demand of Colombia as to the Isthmus.

Washington, Dec. 30.—The United States will not entertain Colombia's demand for the restoration of Panama to the Colombian union. Neither will this government consent to submit to The Hague any question of financial damages which Colombia may now or hereafter assume she has sustained through the secession of Panama and the establishment of an independent republic on the isthmus. The policy of the administration will be to stand by the treaty with Panama and observe all of its provisions, including the one guaranteeing the independence of that republic, build the canal and, if war follows, fight until Colombia asks for peace.

Briefly, this is the program that was decided upon at the cabinet meeting, which lasted from 4 until 7 o'clock last evening. Thursday Secretary Root, who has been designated by the President to conduct the negotiations during the illness of Secretary Hay, will communicate the cabinet's decision to General Reyes, the Colombian peace commissioner, in the form of a note that will stand as an answer to his own, submitted to the secretary of state last week.

General Reyes will leave Washington immediately, accompanied by Dr. Herran, and proceed to Bogota by the shortest route available. What will follow is made clear by certain dispatches contained in the pamphlet presenting the correspondence on the Panama revolution, which was made public today. That there will be war is not doubted.

The administration is prepared for any emergency. Five transports are waiting at New York and San Francisco with steam up to take on board two brigades of regular soldiers and sail for Panama in a few hours' notice.

General Reyes is aware of the character of the preparations that have been made to forestall an attempted invasion of the isthmus, but it is known that he greatly fears that it will be impossible to restrain his countrymen, who are demanding war with the United States.

The cabinet was a unit in indorsing the President's course in the Panama matter and also the course he has mapped out for his future guidance.

The reason why the Reyes note was not considered before was because a translation of it was not ready for submission to the cabinet until yesterday afternoon. When General Reyes delivered the note to Secretary Hay at the latter's home last week it was immediately sent to the state department with an order that it be translated forthwith. The note was in Spanish. Professor Thomas, the official translator, was ill, and the note was put away to await his recovery. It was regarded as such an important document that Secretary Hay deemed it more prudent to secure a translation from Thomas rather than from his assistant. Thomas died Monday.

Immediately the note was turned over to his former assistant, and that official had a copy in English ready yesterday afternoon. When President Roosevelt was informed that the copy would be ready about 3 o'clock he instructed Secretary Loeb to issue a call for the cabinet to meet at 4. The session lasted for three hours, and during that time every conceivable feature of the Panama matter was discussed.

INVESTIGATION BEGUN.

Washington, Jan. 4.—The investigation of the accounts of the interstate commerce commission continued today. The books and funds in the safe of the disbursing officer, Edward A. Mosely, have been examined and it is stated that so far they have been found to tally. It is proposed, however, to probe into all the papers to determine whether there is anything irregular back of the vouchers even if the latter appear on the surface to be correct. Administrative methods are being looked into, including the alleged irregular methods in paying men borne on the laborers' roll. Experts Taylor and Chase, of the treasury, examined in detail all the documents and papers of every description in the safe. Keys could not be immediately found for some of the compartments and these were sealed. Mr. Mosely, who is both secretary and disbursing officer of the commission, has been on leave since the investigation began and the experts have taken possession of his room and are examining into the papers there.

ARE NOT ALIENS.

Washington, Jan. 4.—In an opinion by Chief Justice Fuller, the supreme court of the United States decided that citizens of Porto Rico are not aliens of the United States and that they are entitled to enter this country without obstruction. The opinion was delivered in the case of the Porto Rican woman Gonzales, who in 1902 was refused admission to the port of New York on the ground that she was likely to become a public charge. The decision is based entirely on the immigration act of 1891 and took the ground that the Porto Ricans owe allegiance to the United States and to no other government.

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Thousands of tired, fretted mothers, of skin-tortured and disfigured babies, of all ages and conditions, have certified to almost miraculous cures by the Cuticura remedies, when the best medical skill had failed to relieve, much less cure.

Cuticura Treatment is local and constitutional — complete and perfect, pure, sweet and wholesome. Bathe the affected surfaces with Cuticura Soap and hot water to cleanse the skin of crusts and scales and soften the thickened cuticle, dry without hard rubbing, and apply Cuticura Ointment freely to allay itching, irritation and inflammation, and soothe and heal, and lastly take Cuticura Resolvent Pills to cool and cleanse the blood, and put every function in a state of healthy activity. More great cures of simple, scrofulous and hereditary humours are daily made by Cuticura remedies than by all other blood and skin remedies combined, a single set being often sufficient to cure the most distressing cases when all else fails.

Sold throughout the world. Cuticura Resolvent, 50c. (in form o. Chocolate Coated Pills, 25c., per vial of 60), Ointment, 50c., Soap, 25c. Depots: London, 27 Charterhouse Sq.; Paris, 5 Rue de la Paix; Boston, 137 Columbus Ave. Potter Drug and Chem. Corp., Sole Props. "How to Cure Skin and Blood Purification."

WOOD WINS.

Senate Committee Will Report in His Favor.

Washington, Jan. 4.—The senate committee on military affairs today, decided to report favorably the nomination of General Leonard Wood to be major general. The vote stood 7 to 2, the affirmative senators being Proctor, Warren, Forgker, Quarles, Alger, Cockrell and Pettus; the negatives, Scott and Blackburn.

Senator Proctor was not present, but authorized his vote to be recorded.

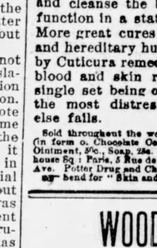
Hawley and Bate were absent.

Cleveland, O., Jan. 4.—Senator Hanna said he had no comment to make, when shown the dispatch from Washington today, announcing the favorable report of the senate committee on military affairs in connection with the nomination of General Leonard Wood to be major-general. Mr. Hanna evidently had fully anticipated the committee's report. It is understood that the senator will make a strong speech against the confirmation of General Wood when the matter is taken up by the senate.

Senator Hanna is completely recovered from his late illness. He will leave here this afternoon for Chicago to visit his daughter, Mrs. McCormick.

TAFT NOMINATED.

Washington, Jan. 4.—The President today sent to the Senate the nomination of Wiliam H. Taft, of Ohio, to be secretary of war. The President also nominated Luke E. Wright, of Tennessee, to be civil governor of the Philippine Islands



LUKE E. WRIGHT.

and Henry C. Ide, of Vermont, to be vice civil governor of the Philippine islands.

Other nominations sent in were:

Civil Service Commissioner—John C. Black, of Illinois.

Consul General—Henry D. Saylor, Pennsylvania; at Coburg, Germany.

Assistant Secretary of Commerce and Labor—Lawrence O. Murray, Illinois.

Marshal—James A. Toler, northern district of Mississippi.

Postmasters in Ohio—Frederick G. Withoft, Dayton; Edgar M. Kane, Vermillion.

Tokio, Japan, Jan. 4.—Gov. Taft, of the Philippine islands, arrived here today and was officially welcomed. He will remain three days. United States Minister Griscom will give him a dinner and reception and the emperor and empress will give a private audience and luncheon. The distinguished visitor also will be entertained at dinners by the war minister and the minister for foreign affairs.

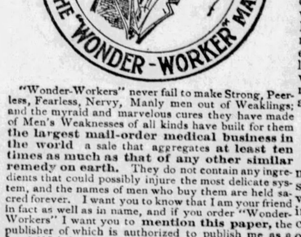
LOOKS LIKE PEACE.

Washington, Dec. 31.—State department advices of recent date all go to show that the danger of a hostile clash with Colombia is abating. This, taken in connection with Minister Beaupre's courteous treatment by the Colombian officials on his way home, tend to confirm the official impression here that there is now no danger of failure to reach a satisfactory adjustment of whatever issues may exist between the United States and Colombia. For one thing it appears that the seaboard states of Colombia have come to realize that in the event of hostilities they would be the first sufferers by contact with a naval force, while the politicians of Bogota, two weeks distant from the sea would have little at stake.

Are You a Man?

BECK'S WONDER=WORKERS FOR MEN. PRICE ONE DOLLAR

My Dear Brother:—I want to tell you about the remedy that cured me in less than one month, when I lacked that vitality without which a person is a man only in name; and which has brought full vigor and vitality to more than 300,000 weak men during the past five years. Whether you are old, young or middle-aged; if hard work, drinking or any of the reckless acts of by-gone days have thrown your nervous system out of tune and you are now suffering from Varicocele or Physical Debility; if your kidneys bother you, or if you are weak where perfect men are strong, I want to assure you, on my honor as a man, that no matter how much you have been humbugged and defrauded by the infamous frauds who disgrace the honorable profession of medicine, the use of my "Wonder-Workers" (at home, at your work), one tablet at a dose three times a day, will **permanently cure you quicker and at less expense** than any other remedy on earth.



"Wonder-Workers" never fail to make Strong, Peerless, Fearless, Nervy, Manly men out of Weaklings; and the myraid and marvelous cures they have made of Men's Weaknesses of all kinds have built for them **the largest mail-order medical business in the world** a sale that aggregates **at least ten times as much as that of any other similar remedy on earth.** They do not contain any ingredients that could possibly injure the most delicate system, and the names of men who buy them are held sacred forever. I want you to know that I am your friend in fact as well as in name, and if you order "Wonder-Workers" I want you to **mention this paper,** the publisher of which is authorized to publish me as a fraud if I fail to do exactly as I agree with its readers.

The price of "Wonder-Workers" is only One Dollar per box, always cash with order; by express at your expense. It will cost 25 cents to lift them from express office. If you send $5 to pay packing and postage, I send them by mail prepaid, thus saving you ten cents. If you have any doubt about me, write to any Commercial Agency, the First National Bank of this city, (the bank of which Hon. Asa S. Bushnell, Ex-Gov. of Ohio, is President), or to any of your friends in Springfield. Sincerely your friend,

GEO. S. BECK,

14 and 46 Main Street, SPRINGFIELD, OHIO.

PUBLIC PROPERTY

In Hawaii Taken Over by the Washington Government.

Washington, Dec. 30.—By proclamation, dated December 28, 1903, President Roosevelt directed that all public property of the former government of Hawaii ceded hertofore to the United States, consisting of light houses and public lands used in connection with light vessels, lighthouse tenders, beacons, buoys, sea marks and their appendages and supplies and materials of all kinds, be taken for the use of the United States, and that the department of commerce and labor, through the lighthouse board, be charged with all administrative duties relating to the Hawaiian lighthouse establishment.

Secretary Cortelyou at once cabled the President's proclamation to the governor of Hawaii, and informed him that the federal government would assume charge of the Hawaiian lighthouse establishment on January 1, 1904.

As a "modus vivendi" the secretary of commerce and labor authorized the government to maintain the Hawaiian lighthouse service at the expense of the federal government, promising to reimburse immediately therefore through the lighthouse board. The present Hawaiian lighthouse keepers are all taken over into the United States lighthouse service, which will pay them for their services from and after January 1.

The lighthouse board will, at its session of January 4, 1904, by formal action, make the territory of Hawaii a part of the twelfth lighthouse district.

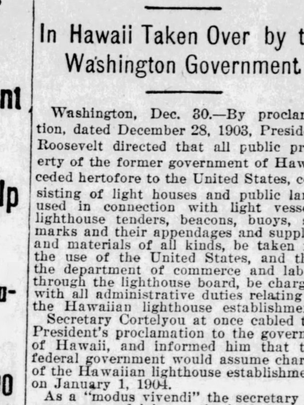
An officer of the United States navy will be detailed as assistant to the inspector of the twelfth lighthouse district to reside at Honolulu, and to act under the orders of the inspector of the twelfth district.

The secretary of war has been requested to detail an officer of the corps of engineers, U. S. A., for assignment to duty as assistant to the engineer of the twelfth lighthouse district, whose headquarters are at San Francisco, with directions to take station at Honolulu and attend to the construction and repair of lighthouses and lighthouse buildings.

The territorial government was without funds to continue the lighthouse service of the islands after January 1, 1904, and the interest of commerce and navigation required that the federal government should provide for their maintenance from and after that date. The President by executive order of December 29, also directed that the department of commerce and labor take charge of the lighthouse and buoyage within the limits of the naval reservation at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

Dinner to President.

Washington, Dec. 30.—The Secretary of State and Mrs. Hay entertained at dinner last evening, in honor of the President and Mrs. Roosevelt, although Mr. Hay was unable to be present, owing to his recent illness. Those present in addition to the President and Mrs. Roosevelt were Secretary and Mrs. Root, Mrs. Knox, wife of the attorney general, the Postmaster General and Mrs. Payne, Secretary Moody, Secretary



MRS. JOHN HAY.

and Mrs. Hitchcock, Secretary and Miss Wilson, Secretary and Mrs. Cortelyou, Assistant Secretary Loomis, Senator Lodge, General and Mrs. Chaffee, Mr. and Mrs. Brook Adams, Dr. and Mrs. Gillman, Miss Bigelow, Mr. and Mrs. James Wadsworth, jr., Mrs. Payne Whitney, and Mr. Henry White, of the American embassy in London.

The British embassy was thrown open for the first time in many months yesterday, when Ambassador Durand gave his formal reception to the diplomatic corps. The ambassador was assisted by Lady and Miss Durand and the members of the embassy staff.

Passports Needed.

Washington, Dec. 31.—The consul-general at Capetown in a recent dispatch reports that no foreigners are allowed to go to the Transvaal or Orange River colony from Cape Colony without a permit, which is granted in Johannesburg on an application sent by the consul representing the applicant's country. The applicant must make oath that he has money enough to support himself and all who must be dependent upon him. United States citizens should procure passports from the state department before leaving this country.

Colombia Not Represented.

Washington, Jan. 1.—Colombia was not represented at the New Year reception, nor did President Roosevelt receive the good wishes of the Bogota government. Gen. Reyes, the special envoy, asked to be excused from attending, in view of the present situation, and Dr. Herran, the Colombian charge, who is not at all well, was also absent. This decision of the Colombian officials is not intended in an aggressive way, but, after a careful consideration of the matter, they thought it the appropriate course to pursue.

Internal Revenue Increase.

Washington, Dec. 30.—The monthly statement of collections of internal revenue show that during November, 1903, the total receipts were $20,847,834, an increase for the month of $1,562,534. For the five months the total receipts exceed those for the corresponding period last year by $2,720,127.

Bonds Refunded.

Washington, Jan. 1.—Refunding operations under Secretary Shaw's recent offer closed yesterday. The amount of threes and fours so far received approximates $15,650,000.

The amount of fives received for redemption is about $12,825,000.

Got Mail at Midway.

Washington, Jan. 1.—The Navy department is informed that the United States collier Pompey landed mail at Midway on Tuesday and reported all well on board.

LOWER WAGES.

Pittsburg, Pa., Jan. 1.—The tens of thousands of employes of the United States Steel Corporation working in the concern's mills and offices in Pennsylvania, New York, Ohio, Illinois, Wisconsin and other states, doubtless have little inclination for celebrating the new year. Over 150,000 men, or about 90 per cent of all the employes of the corporation, go to work today at a less wage than they have been receiving heretofore. The remaining 10 per cent represent the employes belonging to the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers. The existing agreement between the corporation and the association prevents the wages of these men being reduced before the agreement expires next July. The reduction ranges from 5 to 30 per cent and will mean a saving of more than $1,000,000 yearly to the corporation.

Georgia Republican Convention.

Atlanta, Ga., Jan. 1.—The Republican state committee has chosen Atlanta as the place of holding the next convention, and March 23, 1904, the date.

RUSSIA'S REPLY.

Japan Sending 35,000 Men to Take Possession.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 5.—In her reply to Japan, Russia made great concessions and hopes her proposals will prove acceptable to Japan.

The foreign office informed the Associated Press, today that instructions had been sent to Viceroy Alexieff on which reply was based. The latter was drawn up in the most conciliatory spirit. Some of the Japanese proposals were accepted, while others were made the subject of extended observations and were met by counter proposals.

There are strong hopes in many circles that on Thursday next, the Russian Christmas, the czar may be able to announce that peace is assured.

The flurry on the bourse today is explained by bankers as being due to the annual settlement operations and they add that it was wholly uninfluenced by the far eastern situation.

Paris, Jan. 5.—A dispatch from Tokio today says that the preparations for the embarkation of two divisions of Japanese troops are continuing actively. It is believed they will be despatched to ports in South Corea to restore order. The Japanese minister for foreign affairs had not received the Russian reply up to last evening.

The officials in Paris concluded from this that Viceroy Alexieff is awaiting an opportune moment to present it. No direct word has been received from St. Petersburg, that the reply has been forwarded, but the unofficial reports to the effect that the answer has been made, are considered correct.

Owing to the absence of details regarding the Russian reply the officials here are careful not to express an opinion as to the outcome, but the general tone of the comment in official circles is slightly less hopeful.

The most significant feature of the dispatch from Tokio is the statement that Japan is hastening final preparations for a far more extensive dispatch of troops to Corea than at first contemplated. The government has now decided to send an army of 35,000 men, organized as two divisions, to Corea. This is more than double the strength of the expedition first contemplated, and requires a large fleet of transports and extensive arrangements, which are proceeding rapidly towards completion. The destination of this army is expected to be Southern Corea, particularly Fusan and Masampo.

The officials here at first understood that Russia would not object to the dispatch of the expedition, but the magnitude of the plans begin to raise some doubt as to whether Russia will acquiesce.

Although no positive advices have been given of the preparations for the dispatch of this large army, the reports excite some apprehension as it is said it may develop into the first outward act of the impending conflict.

Rumors are in circulation at Marseilles that a French naval division, composed of the armored cruisers Kleber, Desaix and Admiral Aube and the turret ship Suffern is about to receive orders to sail for the far east.

The reports, however, cannot be confirmed here, but there is reason to believe that the naval authorities are considering the disposition of the warships in the event of a serious turn in the situation. This is due mainly to the present small French naval force in the Pacific, which is confined to two unimportant vessels.

Russian Squadron Prepares for Action.

Tokio, Jan. 5.—1:05 p. m.—The Russian reply to Japan had not yet been received. It is reported from Vladivostok that the Russian squadron there is preparing for action.

War Measure in Japan.

Tokio, Jan. 5.—3:05 p. m.—An extra edition of the Official Gazette has been issued containing army and navy orders prohibiting the publication of any reports of the movements of troops or war vessels from this time on. Otherwise the Japanese authorities are not interfering with press messages.

Says Corean Ports Will Open.

London, Jan. 5.—The Corean charge d'affaires in an interview, says he has good reason to believe that the negotiations between Corea, the United States, Great Britain, Japan and Russia, regarding Wiju and Yongampho will result in the opening of these ports at an early date. Russia, he added, is still opposing the opening and a few Russian troops have occupied Yongampho; but he believed the negotiations would terminate in a decision favorable to the views of Corea and the powers desiring the opening of the ports.

Corea, the charge d'affaires further declared, would never agree to Russia's proposal to establish a neutral zone in northern Corea, as it would prejudice the sovereignty and integrity of Corea which is guaranteed by the Anglo-Japanese treaty.

Telegraphic advices received from Seoul by the charge d'affaires as late as two days ago, did not mention the possibility of Japan landing troops at Masampho. Corea's relations with Russia and Japan were friendly and the charge d'affaires did not believe war would result from the present negotiations.

Thinks Peaceful Issue Possible.

Cologne, Jan. 5.—According to advices received by the Cologne Gazette from St. Petersburg, the terms of the Russian reply to Japan were decided upon at a council on Sunday, presided over by the czar and attended by the Grand Dukes Vladimir and Alexis, the foreign, war and marine ministers and M. Witte, president of the council of ministers. This correspondent, like others, understands that the reply renders a peaceful issue possible.

Another Warship for Japan.

Valparaiso, Chili, Jan. 5.—The warship Capitan Prat has been ordered to proceed to drydock and to embark full war equipment. It is presumed the vessel has been already sold to Japan. The Capitan Prat was built at La Seyne, France, in 1890, and is a third class battleship of 6,900 tons, with a maximum speed of 18.3 knots.

Russian Troops to Corea.

Tokio, Jan. 5.—1:05 p. m.—According to one report a Russian cruiser has left Port Arthur with a small military force on board. Its destination is unknown, but is probably Chemulpo, Corea.

Pleasure at Friendly Answer.

London, Jan. 5.—The statement made by the foreign office at St. Petersburg to the Associated Press today regarding the instructions sent to Viceroy Alexieff was communicated to the British foreign office and to the Japanese legation here. They both expressed pleasure at the fact that Russia had evinced such a friendly attitude, but they said no definite conclusions could be drawn until the nature of the counter-proposals was known. The Japanese legation reiterated that the cardinal points of the Japanese proposals admitted of no counter-proposals and said that if serious points were included among those accepted there was a possibility of reaching a settlement by further negotiations.

Lord Rothschild today informed the Associated Press that his prolonged visit to the foreign office yesterday was not connected with the situation in the far east.

Germany Makes War Move.

Berlin, Jan. 5.—The widely separated vessels of the German far eastern squadron have been ordered by Rear Admiral Von Prittwitz to concentrate at Tsin-Chou, province of Shan Tung. This movement is considered here as probably relating to the possibilities of war between Russia and Japan.

American Negotiations Held Up.

Washington, Jan. 5.—All the advices of recent date received by the State department from its own agents regarding the situation in the far east have been of a reassuring character. The present situation, however, has hopelessly complicated for a time the efforts of United States Minister Allen to successfully press on the Corean government the demand for the opening of Wiju as a treaty port. Already in a disorganized state, the Corean government has been thrown into further disorder by the death of the Dowager Empress who is said here to have been a political factor of great influence in the country. It is, therefore, feared that it may be necessary to await the outcome of the present controversy between Russia and Japan before proceeding with the negotiations as to Wiju.

Evergreen Seed and Tree Co.—White Pine, Cedar, Fir, Spruce, Sugar-Pine and California Redwood Seeds 15c a doz., 3 doz. for 25c. Trees, 1 year old 15c; 2-year old 25c. Seed can be planted any time of year. Raise your own fence posts in five years; timber for barns and frames in ten years. Beautify your homes and farms by planting wind-breaks and evergreen hedges—can be trimmed in any form. Will send enough seed to plant one acre for $1.00; one acre of cedar fence posts will give you $100 a year for 10 years. Can be grown on any kind of soil. Send silver or P. O. Orders to W. C. NEFF, Box 88, Clear Lake, Washington.

Reserve address for future use.

BOATS BEHAVED BADLY

Naval Men Disappointed in Sea Test of Destroyers.

Newport, R. I., Jan. 5.—Advices received in naval circles here indicate that the fleet of torpedo boat destroyers which was recently tested in rough weather on a run from Norfolk to Key West behaved unsatisfactorily. The destroyers were the Decatur, Chauncey, Bainbridge, Barry and Dale, commanded by Lieutenant Lloyd H. Chandler and convoyed by the cruiser Buffalo. The board of inspection and survey, of which Capt. C. J. Train is president, accompanied the fleet. The boats behaved very badly and pitched and rolled in the heavy seas. It is further stated that they took in salt water, and that the boilers foamed instead of making steam. In order to lighten the boats part of the crews were sent on board the Buffalo.

Continuing the Journey.

San Juan, P. R., Jan. 5.—The United States torpedo boat destroyer flotilla, commanded by Lieutenant Commander Lloyd H. Chandler and consisting of the Decatur, Bainbridge, Barry, Chauncey and Dale, escorted by the auxiliary cruiser Buffalo, which arrived here December 28 from Hampton Roads on its voyage to the Philippine islands, will sail from here tomorrow for the Cape Verde islands or the Canary islands as the weather encountered may render advisable. The flotilla probably will be twelve to fourteen days at sea before reaching the next port.

RAILROAD WRECKS.

Chicago, Ill., aJn. 1.—Official statistics show the year 1903 to have been unusually prolific in serious railroad wrecks. The present year, it is hoped, will show a much better record and railroad officials have agreed upon several innovations and new regulations that are expected to contribute to the general safety of the traveling public. Beginning today a number of leading lines substitute the telephonic for telegraphic orders in the operation of trains. It is believed that this change, which in time is to be adopted by all roads, will remove much of the danger of misinterpreted and lost orders.

GERMAN TRADE.

Berlin, Jan. 2.—The exports from Germany to the United States during 1903 did not fall far short of $130,000,000, or from $14,000,000 to $15,000,000 more than in 1902, which was the previous record year. Detailed figures on the year's transactions in all the consular districts are not yet available but the average increase is 12½ per cent over that of 1902. For instance, the Berlin district exported goods to the value of $9,868,841, a gain of $1,168,621. This was due to the great variety of manufactures. The increases, taking all Germany, were chiefly in textiles and steel, chemical and leather goods.

To Massacre Christians.

Salonica, Jan. 1.—Over one hundred Turks have been arrested here on suspicion of complicity in a plot to massacre Christians. The arrests are continuing. Quantities of arms and explosives have been seized.

Accident at Ashtabula.

Ashtabula, O., Dec. 31.—East bound limited train No. 22, on the Lake Shore road, was wrecked two miles west of here today, while running at a high rate of speed, resulting in the death of three persons and the injury of several others.

COTTON REPORT BULLISH

Statistics Show Only 8,848,747 Bales Ginned.

Washington, Jan. 5.—The census bureau today issued a report showing that there had been ginned up to and including Saturday, December 12, 8,848,747 commercial bales, compared with 9,311,835 bales up to and including Dec. 13 of last year. The census found that 29,971 ginneries had been operated this season, against 30,194 up to Dec. 13 of last year.

Counting round bales as half bales, the numbe rof bales ginned is 8,526,244 this season, against 8,903,508 last season. This report will be followed by two others, showing the quantity of cotton ginned from the ground of 1903 up to and including January 16, 1904, and a final report at the end of the ginning season, about March 15, which will distribute the crop by counties, segregate upland and sea island cotton and give weights of bales. Of the total of 8,848,747 commercial bales, for the United States, 8,144,493 were square bales, 645,006 round bales, and 59,248 sea island crop bales.

32 years ago we occupied one room with two clerks and published a catalogue a quarter the size of a hymn-book.

"Grandfather Traded With Us"

One of the greatest joys of this great business is the many kind letters we receive daily from our customers, expressing their pleasure and satisfaction with our goods and methods.

Often the most significant part of the letter is embodied in the few words: "My grandfather traded with you years ago." It is the complete confidence of our customers in our honesty, born of past experience in dealing here, that enables us to hold their continued trade.

One-time special "below cost offerings" to catch an occasional customer, and making up the loss on subsequent orders, would never build a business like ours.

It is the constant saving and steady stream of pleasant business relations which makes our patrons eager to speak a good word for us at every opportunity.

Our prices are 15 to 50 per cent below regular retail figures.

We Want You to Try Us and test for yourself our ability to please you. Tell us what kind of goods you are interested in and we will send you without charge any of the following illustrated special catalogues quoting wholesale prices. Merely mention the number or letter of the catalogue you want.

100 Artists' Supplies
105 Athletic Goods
110 Blacksmiths' and Machinists' Tools
115 Builders' Hardware and Supplies
120 Carpenter and Builders' Tools and Materials
125 Crockery and Glassware
130 Cutlery
135 Dry Goods
140 Fancy and Novelty Goods
145 Farm Implements
150 Fishing tackle
155 Popular-priced Furniture
160 Harness
165 Jewelry
170 Kitchen Supplies
175 Laces, Embroideries, Ribbons, Trimmings
180 Lamps and Lanterns
185 Linoleums, Carpets and Curtains
190 Men's Hats and Gloves
195 Men's Shoes
200 Men's Wearing Apparel
205 Music and Musical Instruments
210 Notions
215 Saddles and Saddlery
220 Silverware
225 Sporting Goods
230 Stationary and Office Supplies
235 Stoves
240 Toys, Dolls and Games
245 Underwear
250 Vehicles
255 Wagon Makers' Supplies
260 Watches and Clocks
265 Women's Shoes
300 Women's Catalogue (Cloaks, Furs, Suits, Skirts, Waists, Hats, etc.)
B Bicycles
C Baby Carriages
D Dairy Supplies
G Drugs and Patent Medicines
J Telephones and Electrical Goods
K Cameras and Photo Supplies
M Books
R Fancy Grade Furniture
T Trunks
U Youths' and Boy's Clothing
V1 Men's Made-to-order Clothing with samples of fabrics. Suits $10.50 to $16.50
V2 Same as V1 except suit prices $8.00 to $26.00
VO Made-to-order Overcoats with samples
W Men's Ready-Made Clothing
Mackintosh Catalogue
Butterick Fashion Catalogue
GL Grocery List (published every 60 days).

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Enclosed find 15 cents for partial postage on Catalogue No. 72, four 2c stamps for Wall Hanger or 20c for both.

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It also contains freight rates, full instructions for ordering, and tells you everything you might want to know about us.

Ordering is easy from this wonderful book, which costs us almost one dollar apiece to print and send out.

Send for it today and save the profit you pay your dealer. You can get your money back if your purchases are not satisfactory. Fill out this slip, enclosing 15 cents for partial postage as a guarantee of good faith.

Send four 2-cent stamps for our **10 Color Wall Hanger** showing the inside of this building, with the goods and the clerks at work. One of the most complex and complicated pieces of lithography ever attempted. Very interesting and attractive. You can get it for what it cost us—four 2c stamps.

Today, we occupy more than 200 times as much floor space, employ over 3000 people and our catalogue contains over 1100 large pages.

Montgomery Ward & Co.,

Michigan Ave., Madison & Washington Sts., Chicago

Complete satisfaction or money refunded without question.

Annual Trade Review.

New York, Jan. 1.—The annual review of trade of R. G. Dun & Co. says:

Readjustment is the one word that sums up the Industrial and financial history of the United States during the year 1903. From the highest point of depression in 1896 to 1897 to the zenith of prosperity and commercial activity in 1901-1902, the course of business was well defined and uninterrupted, although numerous events occurred that were calculated to check even this great monument. But five years of expansion in trade and manufacture created financial and industrial excesses. The result was the "building of bigger barns," the preparation for more business than appeared, and the capitalization of the hopes and expectations of future. The past year has effectively been devoted to retrenchment. Assimilation of securities was only accomplished by the drastic remedy of a 30 per cent reduction in prices. Accumulation of iron and steel found a market only with the aid of lower prices and curtailed production. In the process of readjustment there were many failures, the number being especially large in the last quarter. Some industries have not shared in the reaction to any appreciable extent, and this provides an element of uncertainty regarding the future. But in many sections of the country, and in numerous walks of life, the setback has reached such proportions that there is reason to look for recovery in 1904. In iron and steel starting with the heaviest production on record, the furnace stocks of pig iron practically wiped out, the year 1903 has brought some startling developments. Prices declined and production was curtailed. Labor troubles, especially in the building trade tied up work on buildings, cost many millions of dollars, and cautious investors cancelled many plans for work. The decline in quotations continued throughout the fall, but at the recent meetings of manufacturers former price lists were reaffirmed and even southern foundries declined to accept future contracts at the lowest figure for pig iron.

Agriculturally, the year has not fallen short of expectations. A smaller yield of cotton was accompanied by more than equivalent rise in prices, while the yield of cereals was abundant, and the live stock shortage of recent poor corn years was fully made up. Neither corn nor oats equalled the record breaking crops of 1902, but there was an enormous wheat crop, part of which was lost because of inadequate facilities for handling.

Financial conditions were precarious for a time during 1903, but the season of pressure was passed with light mortality and the year closes with less than the customary stringency in preparation for January disbursements. Unusually heavy payments were made early in the new year, offset by very large imports during the autumn. Withdrawals of funds for moving the crops began earlier than usual and reached very large figures, chiefly because of the cotton market.

The readjustment of stock prices that occurred during the year 1903 caused no sensational bankruptcies in the stock market. Prices had risen far above all previous records during 1902, the sixty most active railway stocks averaging $116.27 at the top point. The decline was well under way when the year opened and it continued until the same securities averaged $82.62. There were no sharp breaks such as occurred during the Northern Pacific corner in 1901, nor was there anything of a spasmodic nature about the reaction.

Incomplete returns of commercial insolvencies during the year 1903, reported by R. G. Dun & Co., show that 12,061 concerns suspended, having liabilities of $156,623,859. These figures compare with final returns of 11,615 failures for $117,476,769 in 1902. Throughout the early months of the year there were fewer failures, but always larger defaulted indebtedness than in 1902.

The Grain Markets.

Toledo, Jan. 5.—Close.—A heavy liquidation in May wheat, influenced largely by the weakness of the outside markets, but particularly because of less apprehension of war between Russia and Japan, gave the market a weak tone today. Trade in the May was fairly active. Bradstreet's available supply report gave wheat an increase for the week of 31,000 bushels, against a decrease of 2,440,000 a year ago. Foreigners were quiet and no export demand was reported. Clearances were 399,000 bushels. Opening wheat prices this morning were easier, ¾ to ¼c under Saturday's close. Trade was quiet throughout the earlier hours and a heavy liquidation induced, no doubt, by less apprehension of war and large receipts. May dropped off to 88¾c during the morning. Weather conditions were not so favorable for the movement of grain. The map today showed generally clear weather and seasonable temperatures. There was practically no precipitation anywhere. The spring map shows a good covering from the Mississippi river east. There is a trace of snow over Missouri and northern Kansas. Liverpool cables came easier today. Receipts in the northwest were large, 1,294,000 a week ago, and 641,000 a year ago; shipments, 499,000, against 498,000 and 173,000. The decline started early in the day and continued throughout the afternoon, and the close was 2c to 1¾c lower than yesterday.

Corn prices opened irregular, unchanged for May to ⅝c higher for July. Receipts here today were 108 cars. There is considerable talk of an increased movement in corn, and cables came steady. Trade was quiet during the morning but some weakness in the outside markets and a sympathetic feeling with wheat caused prices to drift a fraction lower during the early hours. Weather conditions were favorable.

The futures were active, but the cash options turned weak, closing ½c lower with July steady and unchanged. Primary receipts today were 820,000 bushels, against 512,000 a week ago, and 865,000 a year ago; shipments, 407,000, against 282,000 and 612,000. Foreigners were quiet. Bradstreet's available supply report made corn an increase of 89,000 bushels for the week, against a decrease of 195,000 a year ago. Clearances were light.

Oats were firm again today despite the easier feeling in the other grains. Trade was more active than for the past few days. The strength of the outside markets was a factor. The market opened easier unchanged to ⅛c lower. Offerings were light, but the demand good. Bradstreet's available supply report made the increase for the week 371,000 bushels, against an increase of 89,000 bushels a year ago.

A moderate buying for export coupled with light offerings and some short covering gave clover seed a strong tone and the market closed 2½c up all around.

Clover seed opened steady and unchanged from yesterday. Trade was quiet but prices were steady at the opening figures. Receipts of seed today were 466 bags, against 250 a year ago; shipments, 1,015, against 800.

TOLEDO.

	Open.	High.	Low.	Today Jan. 4 Close.	Close.
Wheat—					
Cash	91⅝	91⅝	90½	90½	92
Jan.	91⅜	91⅝	90½	90½	92
May	89⅝	88⅝	88½	88⅝	89⅝
July	84½	84½	84	84⅛	84⅝
Corn—					
Cash	..	..	..	46½	47
Jan.	..	..	..	46½	47
May	47⅛	47⅝	47	47⅛	47⅝
July	47⅝	47⅝	46¼	47¼	47¼
Oats—					
Cash	..	..	..	39½	39½
Jan.	..	..	..	39½	39½
May	39⅝	40¼	39⅝	40⅛	40
Clover Seed—					
Cash	$6.97½	$7.00	$6.97½	$7.00	$6.97½
Jan.	6.97½	7.00	6.97½	7.00	6.97½
Feb.	7.02½	7.05	7.02½	7.05	7.02½
March ...	7.07½	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.07½

Rye—No. 2, 59¼c.
Timothy—Prime, $6.50.
Alsike—Prime, $1.35.

CHICAGO.

Wheat—					
Dec.	86¾	86¾	85¾	86¼	86¾
May	81⅝	81⅞	81	81⅛	81⅝
July	79	79	78½	78⅝	79⅛
Corn—					
May	46¾	46⅞	46	46⅛	46⅞
July	46¼	46¼	45⅝	45⅞	46⅜
Oats—					
May	38⅝	39¼	38⅛	39⅛	38⅝
July	35½	36⅛	35⅜	36